

**26 Jun 1785 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Spa June 26th 1785

Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours yesterday, and am happy to find you & Mrs. Skelton & my little Friend are well. With respect to the Tythes at Darton they may rest till I return which I hope may be in October but am not as yet certain what may happen, but I hope for the best. I am much obliged to you for the hint respecting the Will & Deeds of the School at Darton, I have wrote to Mr. Fisher to desire he would give me the Will & Deeds respecting Flocton Poor & Darton School, and as I told him I have employed you to make a Schedule of my deeds &c have requested you to call on him for them, as he told me he had them before my departure. I have enclosed his Letter to Bent to save him the postage. I am very much pleased with my Journey, the Country is very fine, but the difference of the Money puzzled me a great deal at first. This is <a water> drinking place there are a number of English and we have good society dancing and everything a Young Man could wish for, Excepting Spirits, which are what I want. I am going into Burgundy tomorrow and from thence to Paris, where I shall be happy to hear from you, I hope Mr. Fisher will give you the Deeds. I am with Complimts. to Mrs. S. & Family – Dear Sir /

Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont

Amons. Mons. Beaumont  
au soin de Messrs. Gerardot Haller & Co  
Paris -

**5 Sep 1785 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Paris Sepr. 5th 85.

Dear Sir,

I had a letter from Mr. Bent, informing me you was so obliging as to offer me a little Money, I shall be much obliged to you for it, for at present I am not determined whether I shall return this Winter, or no, as some of my Friends wish me not. It will depend on circumstances, but I shall now determine very soon, but at all events a little Money, will be of service – I should wish to have the Money lodged in my Bankers Hands in London.

I hope Mrs. Skelton and my little Friend, with the rest of your Family are well.

I am Dear Sir Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont

Direct, Hotel D'York

Rue Jacob <ff> St. Germain

**29 Oct 1785 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Paris Octr. 29th 85

Dear Sir,

I was exceedingly sorry to hear of the Misfortune you had with a Horse, but as no bones were broke, hope you will soon recover. I would have wrote to you sooner, but my Friend Shelley who is travelling with me is only just arrived, that I could not give you my Address, the first place we shall make any material stop at, 'till we reach Italy, is Nice, and in case I should be gone when any letters arrive they will be forwarded with <Care>. I shall be obliged to you for your Assistance in the Money way, as soon as is convenient to You – I was in hopes of hav.g had the pleasure of shaking you by the hand this Winter but the Fates have otherways decreed it, but hope ere long to see some happier days than at present, however I hope everything is for the best. I [am] informed my Servant has sent a Foal to your House if so, should be glad that it should remain all winter. I hope Mrs. Skelton and all my little Friends are well, to whom I beg my best Respects –

I am Dear Sir Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

To Direct

A Mons Monsr. Beaumont

Chez Mons. Le Clerc & Co

Nice

**11 Dec 1785 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Nice Decr. 11th 85

Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours last Night and have taken the earliest opportunity in answering it. I have signed the Bond in presence of my Friend that is travelling with me and my Servant. I am not certain whether I may want any Money on my return but will inform you before February, as we think of being in England in June. I so I hope I shall have no occasion for any. I will thank [you] to wait on any person who has the Management [of] poor Bayldon's Affairs, as he was employed for me [res]pecting a Bastard Child and regulate the matter for me. He also procured some Money for m[e] and if he has any Bill against that pray let that be discharged – with respect to Archer at Flocton I would have you act as you think proper. We leave this in a day or two for Rome & Naples where I shall be glad to hear from you. This is a most delightful Situation. I am now writing with all the Windows open and little or no fire & no Snow

or frost. It is like summer. The Company chiefly consists of English the Duke of Bedford Lord & Lady Maynard at the Head with about fifty more Families. The Duke of Gloucester is expected to morrow. I am glad Mrs. Skelton and all my little Friends are well to whom I beg my best Respects, I will write to you when I get settled again – let me know how you [go] on about Bayldon – If Fisher should go, make in[quiries? - missing] for my papers –

I am Dear Sir

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

Direct

Amons Mons. Beaumont

Chez Mons Jenkin's

Á Rome

**24 Apr 1786 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Turin April 24 1786

Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours Last Night dated 4 April, from Venice; and am very sorry to find that I am likely to Lose part of my Estate, and could have wished it had been settled in my Father's time, however am much obliged to you, for the trouble you have had, and make no doubt but you will do everything in your power for me; I would have you have the best opinion you can respecting the business. I will most certainly be Home in September if not before, but am afraid I can't conveniently before, but any letters directed to me chez Mr. Peregeaux á Paris, will find me. I don't know of any Friend that I have that I can apply to on such an Occasion, but Mr. Beaumont I have wrote to him this post. With respect to the Child, I would have you settle that in the best manner you can, Fisher mentioned he had some papers but don't recollect his saying that they were of such consequence, he said he would let you see them in my absence, and when I return'd we might consult about them. I shall be glad to hear from you from time to time as I shall be in Paris next Month. My respects for Mrs. S. & Family. When you see Sir Tho. & the rest of the Gentlemen please to present my Compliments to them and thank them.

I am Dear Sir,

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

**29 May 1786 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Paris May 29th 86

Dear Sir,

I am so far on my Return and hope soon to have the pleasure of shaking you by the Hand, a Month will be the outside, but don't say I am either here, or on my return so soon, my reason when I see You, I hope by that time, my affairs will be a little arranged, and that I shall not be tormented by these Genius's, I will see you on my Return immediately, and let you know what day I shall be at home. I hope to God, I shall be better received, than I expect, and in some Quarters go on better, I hope you and your good Family are all well. Let me hear from you, as I shall quit this in a few days – direct to me as on the other side, - I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont –

I purpose being there in about a fortnight -

**20 Aug 1786 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Bruxelles Aug 20th 86

Dear Skelton,

When I was in Town I waited on Mr. Wentworth & he shewed me an Act of Parliament wherein mentioning that an Act had passed last Session for all Writings whatsoever concerning Moneys left to Charities, to be laid before the house to redress any grievances and to enquire whether they had or had not any complaints, so you see at any rate this affair if any must have come before the House, now as a State of this case must be laid, whether it will be necessary for your Attendance on the meeting of Parliament, and who is to be at the expense of the suit, whether it is not at the will of either party to be at any expense provided it could have been avoided, this Act coming out obliging the matter to be laid before the House, will it not become a general expense? However now there is no help for it. We have had a very pleasant Jaunt, and purpose making a little further Tour, and then returning to Town; Mrs. B. is much pleased with the Country & we were very fortunate in meeting with Mrs. Pigott – She joins with me in Compliments to Mrs. Skelton & your little Folks hoping they are all well. I am

Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

Direct chez Messrs. Danoot

A Bruxelles -

**24 Dec 1786 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Decr. 24. 1786

Dear Sir,

Enclosed is a letter I got from Mr. Jenkins which he calls an instrument for obtaining an administration to my Mother's Will. I have read it and can make nothing in the World of it, he first says she was a widow and lived at <Keddington>, then he mentions I am her natural & lawful Son, & in short makes use of terms I know not, which makes me at a loss how to act. I would have waited on you myself, but the badness of the day prevents me, however you will act as you think expedient, and if tomorrow is fine I will call on you in the Morning. If you think I should write to this Mr. Jenkins, and you will inform me what I should say will take the advantage of this post.

I am yours sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

Sir Thomas says if you have no particular Engagement he will be glad to see you, as we are thin of Company, only Mr. & Mrs. <Copley> -

**14 Jun 1787 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

<Inverscadell> June 14th 87.

Dear Sir,

We are thus far advanced having spent a very pleasant fortnight at Hexham, and part of our time at Mr. Soulsby's. We then proceeded on to Edinburgh and were much pleased with the Country, from thence here, is entirely over the Mountains for about ninety miles thro' such Vallies and over such hills as is almost incredible, we were obliged to take horses all the way from Glasgow, but exclusive of the Roads the Country is very romantic. This house is belonging the Steward of Mr. Macdonald where we have been just to rest ourselves, & tomorrow Morning we set off for his House, which is forty miles further in the Highlands, there is no Carriage road, that part we go by sea, & the rest by a <horses> road over the Mountains, from the description of the place that is given us, we shall find a very pretty place, we are going before we return to Benbecula an Island that belongs to him – by this time I suppose you must have heard something more from Mr. Smyth. I beg to know what is the result of the Answer Mr. Beaumont of Leeds would carry them – pray how does the Charity business go, and has Tommy Cotton payed his Money yet to Mr. Bent. We have had fine Rains, I hope my horses are getting fat, and in good Spirits – Mrs. Beaumont joins me in Compliments. I am Dear Sir

Yours sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

Direct to me at John Macdonalds' Esqr, Keppoh [sic], near Fort William N.B-

**4 Jul 1787 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Benbecula July 4th 87.

Dear Sir,

If you have not already wrote to me and nothing material has transpired you need not direct to me here, as we do not think of remaining much longer in the highlands. I hope that the charity business goes on well & that the Affair with Mr. Smyth is likely soon to be concluded. I hope that my horses are well. We pass our time very pleasantly we drink the sea Water and bathe as we are only half a mile from it. This is a very fine Island quite flat and deep sandy soil, it abounds with all kinds of fish, and wild fowl in great abundance but neither hares or partridges, but there is a great quantity of wild deer. We think of stopping a little at Hexham on our return, therefore direct to me there. I hope all your little folks are well – I had some thoughts once of buying a pony here, but they are such beasts as I never saw. They take no care of them in the least, and give them no corn but they go astonishingly sure –

Mrs. Beaumont desires her Compliments.

I am Dear Sir Yours sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

In case any decision respecting the Charities should come forth let me know, as it is high time the money should be paid - & as we shall only be about 3 Weeks here, and the post is so very uncertain on account of the Winds that you had better only direct to me at Hexham – Please to tell Mr. Bent to let my letters come to Hexham.

**22 Aug 1787 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Inverary Aug 22nd 87

Dear Sir,

I got your letter on the 10th of this, and immediately set off for Hexham, & shall be much obliged to you to let me know whether it is necessary I shall come home immediately and what the Money comes to, I am to pay, as Sir Thomas is not at home, if it is to be paid immediately I must have an order from him on Mr. Noble, the sooner the business is over the better and I will set off the next day after I get yours if it is necessary. I am glad Mr. Cotton has payed his Money. I don't recollect any papers you gave me sealed up unless they were given you by Mr. <Elliott>, if they were, Bent has settled about some of them and myself the rest. I am glad my horses look so well, it is of no consequence their <milling> their tails – Mrs. Beaumont desires her Compliments –

I am Dear Sir

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

Direct to me at Hexham, as I shall not stop any 'till I get there. This is the first port town we have come to that I could write to you.

**11 Sep 1787 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Recipient not stated but content and sequence with other letters strongly suggests it was to Mark Skelton]

Hexham Sepr. 11th <87>

Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours yesterday mentioning that was I to return by the latter end of October it would be time enough to go on with the Charity business, but if the papers are ready to be executed the delaying of the Business will be attended with more expense, & as the people will be anxious for their Money, I should wish to have it settled as soon as it possibly can, as I can attend when ever you shall have every thing ready, as we have no engagement to hinder us therefore let me know by return of post whether my coming down immediately would not hasten the finishing of it, as both me & Sir Tho. think the sooner it is settled the better, as to the purchasing any land I can say nothing about that as you know I am not in any situation to purchase any land. I only want to set myself at Liberty with respect to these disagreeable Affairs, as they have waited so very long for their Money I am anxious to have it settled & Sir Tho & I can settle about the money, let Me know what the money will come to. Sir Tho. desires you will tell Mr. Noble that he has fixed no time for his coming home & desires he will write to him again, and to send some fine Apples here if there are any ripe –

The Family here join in Compliments –

I am Dear Sir

Yours sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont.

If there is to be a Meeting of the Trustees they should be spoke to as I am anxious to have it settled immediately – write by return of post -

**27 Mar 1789 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Hatfield March 27. 89

Dear Skelton,

I was favoured with your letter just now & have spoke to Sir Thomas Blackett, & he as well as myself shall be very happy in giving you our Vote. With respect to my own Affairs I shall most certainly give you the preference & will bring you over tomorrow my last Abstracts as the Rent day is on Thursday, if it should not be convenient to you

my sleeping at your house, I beg you will make no kind of ceremony as Bretton is so near, I shall not be able to be with you till about eight o'clock in the Evening – Sir Thomas & the Ladies join me in their Compliments- I am  
Dear Skelton Yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**23 Apr 1789 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but possibly dates from the time of TRB's visit to Lincs in April 1789]

Mr. Beaumont presents his Compliments to Mr. Skelton & will be much obliged to him to attend the Meeting and please to write me word the Result, direct to me at Mr. Wrigglesworth's South Lincolnshire.

Darton Thursday Mornng.

**24 Apr 1789 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but possibly dates from the time of TRB's visit to Lincs in April 1789]

Mr. Beaumont will be obliged to Mr. Skelton if he will look out for all the writings belonging to the Lincolnshire Estate & he will call upon him in a day or two –

Friday Morning –

[Note in Skelton's hand:] I delivered these Writings to Mr. Beaumont in Janry. 1789  
M Skelton

**25 Apr 1789 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but possibly dates from the time of TRB's visit to Lincs in April 1789]  
Saturday –

Dear Skelton,

Enclosed I send you Baildon's Bill, and will thank you to remit Mr. Curtis Apothecary of Oxford, your draft on London for £10.10.0 – I am afraid I shall [not be] able to call upon you before I return from Lincolnshire, as we leave this, on Monday, & I am going from home to day –

I am Dear Skelton

Yours sincerely

Tho Rd Bt.

**27 Apr 1789 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

April 27th 1789

Dear Skelton,

We returned last Night from a trip to Louth; on our return here from Bretton I found a letter from Mr. Wigglesworth mentioning if it was convenient he would be glad to see me at his House, to consult about my Affairs in that part, and we were all at a loose end, & set off immediately, and passed a very agreeable week, I think the estate will be sold very well. He desired me to ask you this question (Is Mr. Beaumont's settlement made previous to his Marriage, & declared to be in heir of Dower, if it is, the settlement must be shewn to the Purchasers to satisfy them thereof & if required attested copies must be given to the Purchasers if the settlement is not, a fine must be levied.) I will thank you to give me an Answer by return of post, & I will write to him, or if you think it will be more proper, you may write to him yourself. I will send you the valuation of Milnes woodd &c, by the Servant this Week. Sir Thomas & the Ladies join me in Compliments –

I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont.

Mr. Wigglesworth  
Louth Lincolnshire  
By Stilton

**23 Jul 1789 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Mr. Tollett's  
Cliff  
Scarbro'  
July 23d. 89

Dear Skelton,

I have just seen in the York Paper that Grove near Ferrybridge is to be sold, it is the place where Lady Mexbro' lived, I dare say it will be sold worth money. There are 127 Acres of land 32 of which are Wood & plantations. I wish you would make some enquiry about <it> without mentioning any Names, as I think [missing word or 2] suit me. Mr. Parker of Halifax [missing 2 or 3 words] reply to. I have been [rest of page missing: torn off] for not paying me the 10ths of tythe, the Onus probandi would lay of them, and it would cost me very little, you know best. However let me hear from you about the House at Grove as soon as you can & I will write to the Baronet. We are all

drinking the Waters and bathing, that we shall all be purified from all <unright...>  
when we return – there is a great deal of Company. The ladies desire their Compliments.  
I am Dear Skelton Yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**24 Jan 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: 24th was a Sunday in Jan and Oct 1790. Letters from London in March onwards suggest it was January]

Ld. Macdonalds  
Great George Street  
Westm[inster]  
Sunday Mornng 24th 90

Dear Skelton,

We arrived here on the 7th after a very pleasant Journey, and are all better for the change of air. Dr. Warren has prescribed for Diana, and says he hopes soon to set her up quite stout, Sophy is quite delighted, she has been to the Opera, play house, and [missing: Pan?]theon, and today is going into the Park to see the World there – the B[aronet? - missing] is always with us, tho' he does not lodge in the same house, he behaves to me in the most handsome manner possible, he has already made me a present of two hundred Pounds, and says when that is done I shall have more, nothing in the world goes wrong he attends us to all the Amusements – I have called twice on Mr. Barker, & on Mr. George; neither of which I found at home. I left my address, but they have never waited on me – Let me hear from you; Sir Thomas and the Ladies unite with me in their Compliments –

I am Dr. Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**20 Mar 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

London March 20th 90

Dear Skelton,

I called yesterday on Mr. George, and found him at home, he said he had heard from you, and that the Answer would be sent immediately. I make no doubt as he is an Agent for you of his Abilities, but his conversation and his reception are very much against him. I talked to him about Sir J. Scot being retained on my part, he agreed with me, that he had great weight with the chancellor, but yet did not seem to wish to have him. If you can recommend any person that will be more proper to retain as Council let me know. He is highly recommended to me, as being a Favorite of the chancellor – which I should think is all in our way.

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont.

**3 Apr 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Bennett's Hotel Albermarle Street  
Picadilly  
London – April 3rd 90.

Dear Skelton,

I am very happy to find you all keep well, I have had a very bad looseness for this last week which has kept me at home, but am now getting better. I am glad you have seen Mr. Wood, he I dare say would be very much inclined to Sir John Scott, he is said here to have more weight with the Chancellor than anyone, [missing: her] Ladyship, I am afraid may have retained <hi>m, or I should think he would be very proper for <us>, tho' Mr. Wood will most likely say something. I <will> send to Mr. George to let him know I will wait on him when he is ready to receive me – we have left Ld. Macdonald's and are all in the same house together which makes it very pleasant, the Apartments are very good. I have just got a letter from Mr. George, mentioning he has retained Sir John Scott, and he will let me know when he wishes for my Attendance – I hope you will send all the papers that are necessary that Sir John may be fully satisfied with all the letters and the Agreement I signed with that you wrote on the back of the agreement – Sir Thomas & the Ladies join me in Compliments – I am Dear Skelton  
Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**4 Apr 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Bennett's Hotel  
Albermarle Street  
Piccadilly  
April 4th. 90

Dear Skelton,

I am just favoured with yours, and with respect to the Exchange with Mr. Cooke, as it is for his Benefit more than mine he should be at the expense. I did not understand from Walker it would be attended with any expense more than the making of the fence and setting it straight – I don't wish to be at any expense about the exchange it had better remain as it is, as the piece of ground is so small, we may lay out as much money in the Exchange, as the land is worth – I should be very glad to accommodate Mr. Cooke, but he can't expect me to pay for his Convenience. You had better hear what he has to say on the Subject. I am glad the Tenants have all paid – I am  
Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**15 Apr 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

No. 39 Lower Brooke Street  
Grosvenor Square  
April 15th 90 –

Dear Skelton,

I have been with Mr. George this Morning, and have heard the Answer, which he will send you to Night. You must know whether Parker saw you taking down the particulars you sent me to Scarbro', as I should think a good deal depends on that, you should be certain as to the out payments of 6. 0d extra – Jackson & Tweedale should be very exact as to their depositions, as you will see they are material Evidencies – we have been obliged to quit the Hotel we were in, the Man was arrested and on course we quitted his House – we have taken this House ready furnished & enter upon it to Night – Sir Thomas desires me to make his Compliments, and says he supposes you have heard from Mr. Thurabill respecting Lady Bute's Business – We all go on in the mending way – and hope all your little Family are well. – we have constant engagements and on course always employed, we [have] taken this house for a Month, and Dr. Warren talks of sending us to Tunbridge Wells – The Baronet is all in good humour & everything goes as we could wish – he & the Ladies unite in their Compliments –

I am Dear Skelton

Ever sincerely yours

Tho Rd Beaumont.

**20 Apr 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

No. 39 Lower Brooke  
April 20th 90

Dear Skelton,

I think it should be certified in the Answer, what passed between Parker, you & myself at Halifax, when he says, I shall have an Allowance made me for the Tythe, at present it does not occur to me it is mentioned. I waited on Ld. Sheffield today with an Intent to have asked him, if he can remember the estate being advertised when he sold it, and in what paper, he I know will give me any information in his power, unfortunately for me he is out of Town, if he does not come up soon, I will write to him. After the offer I made relative to a reference was rejected, it must come from them now, as it will seem too submissive on my part, and in my opinion things will work their way soon, - Mr. <Gotobed> has paid another dividend yesterday of <£7 10s>, I will call on him some day. Wm. Rud[...] is to be allowed the twenty Pounds I gave him – I w<ish> you would let Jackson copy me both your letters & Parkers which have passed on the occasion as I

wish to peruse them again, and be perfect in some particulars. I imagine that Tweedale & Jackson's affidavits must be taken as a deal depends on them. Every particular we can produce should be certified – Sir Thomas desires me to tell you, he would have you and Mr. Tweedale take such steps as you think best, respecting the Cottages – Sir Thomas & the Ladies desire their best Compliments – we are constantly engaged out we have scarcely a moment to ourselves – I am Dear Skelton

Yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**7 May 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

May 7th 90

Dear Skelton,

Sir Thomas got yours this Morning and has executed it, and has desired me to send it you, he is very well only he does not like writing – I have not heard anything from the Mexbro's, I have seen them at parties in the Evenings, we speak & that is all. We are all in famous spirits and are not certain when we shall return – the Baronet is very good indeed to us, he pays every individual thing and is in perfect good humour – he & the Ladies join me in Respects – I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont.

**17 May 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Not dated but reference to leaving London and Sir Thomas suggests this came after the letter of May 7th 1790, so later in May is used here]

Dear Skelton,

We leave London on Wednesday Morning next, but where we are going we are not as yet entirely determined only this I know, it will not be into Yorkshire, Sir T. goes with us, as soon as we get fixed, you shall hear from me, I have heard it said her Ladyship has offered Grove to a Gentleman – Sir T. & the Ladies desire their Compliments. –

I am yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Bt.

Monday 4 o Clock

We are going to dine at Ld. Dudley's.  
I told John Brown to get some Money from You -

**3 Jun 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but annotated '1790' in top right-hand corner of original, and reference to Sir Thomas going to the north suggests it was in the summer]

Bretton Thursday Noon

Dear Skelton,

I had intended setting off this Morning, but Sir Thomas would not let me, however if the Afternoon is fine I shall make another attempt[t]. I have spoke to him about the Money. Mr. Bosville has engaged 2000£, he is going to make a purchase himself with another 1000£, but if he has not the Money, he will speak about it at Newcastle, his Rent day is in three weeks, that there will be no doubt of it. When you see Noble speak to him about it. Sir T. thinks of going off for the North tomorrow, but he is not quite determined. If he should not go so soon as he intends, I wish you would ride over and see him. I am sure he will do anything we want. He speaks with great pleasure about the purchase – We had a very gay day yesterday we sat down ten to dinner, we had Claret, Burgundy, and three different sorts of white wines, so much for Minerva. We parted about eight all very well content. I hope you are now quite reinstated. I shall hope to hear from you soon – I am

Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont.

We are going to dine with Tommy Cotton. I shall annoy him about the Land.

**7 Jun 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but presumably from the period between TRB's marriage to Diana and Sir Thomas's death, and at a time when TRB was in Yorkshire, such as around the time of the letter ascribed to 3rd June 1790]

Skelton, Sir Tho. and I have changed our Minds & instead of your meeting us at my House tomorrow Morning, Sir Tho. will be with you at half past ten with Respect to the Deeds you wish to see, I shall be at home this Evening and wish you to come to me tomorrow Morning early –

Yours sincerely

Tho Rd Bt.

Monday Morn -

**10 Jul 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Worthing – July 10th 1790  
Sussex

Dear Skelton,

In a letter from Mr. George I find a Replication has been made that I would have you proceed immediately, and as I am so near London I can come up at any time, and in the course of a fortnight shall be within thirty miles, so that when Mr. George writes me I will come up immediately, & the day I leave this will write to him & give him my address – You may write to me at Mr. Tulloh's No. 5 Nassau Street Soho – as he knows my address here, & my stay depends entirely on Mrs. B. Sir T. has left us and is in London, and talks of going into Yorkshire immediately – the Ladies unite in their Compliments – this is a most stupid place, not a Soul to be seen, it was ordered us that we might be still & quiet, no news whatever –

I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

**10 Jul 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Worthing July 10th 90

Dear Skelton,

Mrs. Beaumont is writing to Mrs. Wilson and in her Frank, I enclose this. We are going to day for a week or ten days to see the Isle of [Wight -missing], as soon as you get Lady Mexbro <.....> Replication, you will get the necessary <business> forward, and if you have any occasion for me, only write to me at Tulloh's and I shall get the Letter on my Return, as we are to go to Tunbridge Wells immediately afterwards; which is within thirty Miles of Town – what have you done about Ruddock. The Baronet has made us all happy, he has given me something for our Expences – the Ladies unite in their Compliments – I am

Dear Skelton Yours sincerely –

Tho Rd Beaumont.

**10 Aug 1790 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Post Office Tunbridge Wells  
Augst. 10th 1790

Dear Skelton,

I was favoured with yours on my Arrival in Town, where I went for advice for Diana, the Physician wished to see her, she is much as she was, but we are told these Waters are of infinite Service to people in her Way – I have taken a house here for one Month, from the 8th inst. and are determined to give these Waters a fair trial – If you should

think it will be necessary for my going up to Town, respecting Lady Mexbro' business, when you write to Mr. George, desire him to write to me as above & I can come up at any time. By this time I suppose you have seen the Baronet, & Tommy and him have had some conversation, I am sorry he has appeared so dejected, we have wrote several letters to him, & he never answered them – this place is damned stupid indeed – the Ladies desire their Compliments –

I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

**22 Jun 1791 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Plymouth

June 22d. '91

Dear Skelton,

We arrived here last Night, and have the pleasure to tell you that Mrs. Beaumont performed her Journey in a most miraculous manner, She never has had one relapse since we set out, but has been in perfect health ever since, and is now very well and looks better than I have seen her. Unfortunately for us we are informed the packet does not sail these ten days at the furthest, however we shall leave this on Friday Morning and go into that Neighbourhood to be in readiness. Give me a line just to say what you have done about Grove, and direct it for me at the Post-Office, to be left till called for, at Falmouth. We have seen this place in perfection having had a letter to the Commissioner of the Dock-Yard. I think you had better do something about the Fences at Grove, the Wood, and the outside pailing are the most material, & what have you done about a Chimney piece, the Farm house and outbuildings, to be looked over, and see what John Brown thinks about the Brewing vessels, the cisterns and fixtures we settled with you about – Mrs. Beaumont joins with me in Compliments. to yourself & Mrs. Wilson when you see her –

I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

You will buy the Hay at Grove – in the Stacks -

**12 Jul 1791 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: mention of Shelley and Horsham on the address suggests a possible acquaintance between Beaumont and Timothy Shelley of Horsham, father of the poet Percy. A Shelley is mentioned in an another letter to Skelton of 29th Oct 1785]

Williams Hotel, <Rua> Nova do Sacramento Buenos Ayres,

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Lisbon

July 20th 1791

Dear Skelton,

I am just favoured with yours, and have the pleasure to tell you, that we arrived safe here on the 9th. we had a very pleasant passage, and were 11 days out. Mrs. Bt. was sick one day, and kept her Bed three days, the remainder of the way she was very well. I was never sick the whole time. I am sorry that Wharton would not take Grove, however by this time, by advertising it, I hope you may find a tenant. I hope you will be able to find a steady person, to put into the Farm, in case you don't let the House – I would have you look over the House, and out Houses and see that everything is in good repair. We are much pleased with the situation of this Town, but the inhabitants are very poor and dirty, and the Streets stink dreadfully. It is very hot, we don't think of staying here, we are endeavouring to get away as soon as possible. I am afraid we shall not be able to get to Gibraltar, or Madeira, as vessels are very difficult to procure from hence to those parts – I rather think we shall go somewhere up the Mediterranean, that will be settled this Week, as we begin to be tired of the heat.

22nd

I have just agreed with the Capt. of Dutch Vessel to take us to Genoa & Naples where we intend passing the Winter. Mrs. Beaumont still continues well. It is a voyage of about six Weeks, we sail on Sunday the 31st inst. let me hear from you directed to me at Messrs. Cutler & Hughelen, Naples –

Mrs. Beaumont joins with me in Compliments – let me know what you do about Cart Horses &c.

I am Dr. Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Bt.

I hope John will have the Door of the Room at the Court house secured. If you should not let the House at Grove I think you had better remove all the Furniture at once from Hatfield; or if you think they will be safe where they are they may remain there till the Spring. You may consult with Miss Wentworth as <...> she can get Sir T. to lend a Waggon to assist. <What> has John done with my Dogs – tell John to look at my Mare & Horses feet, and also please to tell Thos. Ashton at Bretton when you see him, I don't think I shall be at Home this Winter, & desire he would inform the Huntsman of it. – If Grove is not let the Dog Kennel may be mended, & they may be kept there. Indeed at any rate the Kennel sh[oul]d be in good order – if you should be obliged to buy any fresh cart horses, you had better let one be as near the colour of my brown horse as you can – When you see Mrs. Wilson please make our respects.

[Reverse:] Horsham August seventh 1791

Mr Skelton, Birthwaite near Wakefield

<FreeShelley>

**18 Oct 1791 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Naples Octr. 18th 1791

Dear Skelton,

I was in hopes of having had the pleasure of hearing from you before this time, as we are very glad to know what stirrings there are in our own Country, for letters are so long coming that it is an age before we can get an Answer. I am afraid you will think it very early my beginning to talk of money when I drew so lately, but in the month of February I shall be obliged to trouble you to remit me some to my Friend Hammersley, I have wrote to Richardson about Mrs. B. trying some Waters in France on our return home, & in case he should wish her to try them, it will cause us to make a greater round than we intended. She will write to the Baronet & see what he will do, you might sound him, and see what he says, we are going on Thursday in the Packet from hence to Palermo, when we shall stop a few weeks for change of air, and to get a sail it is only a hundred leagues, we shall be out about three days. Diana is much the same as when she left England, only much thinner. We were six Weeks coming from Lisbon here, and had some very hot days & were becalmed some times for three days at a time, which is dreadful. The latter part of the time, we had very severe winds, attended with thunder & Lightnings in the night, which made it very awful and very disagreeable, we were very lucky in getting a good vessel & a clever Man for a Captain, he was very civil to us, but since we came on shore I have had a dispute with him, he wanted to extract more money than was his due. I complained to his Consul, & I have done with him. Mrs. B was sick a little, but I never was ill all the time – I will thank you to ask Thomas Ashton how they have managed about the hunting, and whether they have had any diversion. I was very fortunate on my arrival here to find that my old servant was unengaged. I have taken him again, he was astonished to meet us. I will thank you to write soon and tell me all the news you can, & let me know what Money you can let me have – I hope all your Family and yourself <keep> well to whom I <beg> my Compliments. Mrs. B. joins me in Respects – I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

direct to me, chez Monsr. <Jenkins> á Rome /  
when we return from Sicily we shall go to Rome. /

**27 Dec 1791 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Naples Decr. 27th 1791

Dear Skelton,

I am favoured with yours this Morning and am happy to find you are all well. It gives me great satisfaction to say that Diana has received every advantage from this climate we could wish, she has now been above two Months without any relapse of her Complaints, and begins to look very healthy – we think of leaving this place for Rome, if the weather will permit, in about a week, we shall remain there about Six Weeks, and then proceed on our Return to England, - I wrote to you about some Money, mentioning I had said something to Sir Thos. I am sure we are much obliged to him for thinking of us – the more you can get the better, and send it to Hammersley for his Notes, as soon as you can, as I am afraid we shall be obliged to return by Land all the Way, & I must buy a carriage, and run the chance of selling it again – as we have such a Number of <alterations> to make I don't wish to draw any from you, if we could possibly do w[i]thout, as we cannot positively do without 600£, but if the Baronet is willing to do it very well, if not we must get you to send it to us as soon as you can to Hammersley to be sent to Rome, if you have sent the 300£ you mention, I am afraid he will not advance the 600£ I last wrote for, but I leave all that to you, to get as much as he will part with – As to the <Letting> proceedings respecting Grove I think Mr. Gordon has not behaved like a Gentleman & had I been down would have told him so, & I don't think he will ever do as a tenant, if he has not settled I would advise to have nothing to do with him – with respect to Simon's House & Foxes I entirely leave that to you. These damned old houses are always out of repair – Ld. Sheffield does not seem to give any information, but as I come thro' Town will speak to him, as to the house &c, that I can do nothing with – I am much obliged to you for the use of your horses, - I wish I was in England I am quite tired of this Country, I want to inhabit Grove myself, without being plagued with these people, that don't know their own Minds – As to any letters that are or may come for me, you may open them, and act accordingly, & when I see you, you may then say in what manner you have done about them, It certainly is devilish provoking all this business about Grove, but as I am convinced you will do everything that lies in your power I shall be easy, tho' the houses at Darton will call for Money, & I am afraid that we shall want some that we must make up when we come home – the Wood at Grove I think will not pay the fencing of it, & that sh[oul]d be very much attended to. The hedgerows are too large, and land there is valuable – Diana joins me in best wishes- I am  
Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont

**10 Feb 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Rome Feby. 10th 1792

Dear Skelton,

I this morning received a letter from Hammersley with Bills enclosed for 600£. I wish you would let us know what the Baronet said about my letter to him, as you talked about three hundred he was to send me, whether he intends this as a present. I shall

write to him in a few days and thank him for it – I am anxious to know how you go on at Grove; I took the advice of a Physician at Naples respecting Mrs. B. & he advises our going to <Bagneu> in France, that it will be September before we can possibly be at Home, as she must drink the Waters for six Weeks. Since we came here she has had two relapses of her Spasms within ten days. I think it owing to the cold weather, we shall leave this for Nice, in about a fortnight, as it is much warmer there, & all in the Way we are destined to go to, we have had Snow all this day and rain for this last three days, we had not changed for the better in leaving Naples – we shall go by slow degrees till we get thro this Country and get settled again, as moderation and change of air is strictly recommended we have nearly seen all the curiosities here, the Carnival is begun and all the Romans are mad, in the Afternoon near all the world are masked & run up and down in the Streets, they have races every day in the great Street, which is a mile long, sometimes 9 & ten horses start without riders, and run from the top to the bottom, and that is all, the prize is a trifle, only a piece of cloth richly worked, it is more the honor than any profit. There are abundance of English here, and more coming every day, this business only continues three days longer, I wish it were over it grows so very stupid, always the same there are masqued balls three times a week but we have not been to any, we shall just look into one, to see what they are, and retire for we live by rule and keep very good hours – write to me soon after you get this, and tell me the news, what horses you got at the fair, I shall want a clever hack when I return, it must be a capital trotter – direct to me chez Monsr. le Baron Le Clerc á Nice en Provence – Diana joins me in respects –

I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

**3 Mar 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Terni March 3d. 1792

Dear Skelton,

I wrote to you from Rome desiring you would let me hear from you at Nice, since that I have received your answer to the question I had asked you. I was sorry to have so bad accounts of the Baronet, it has given Diana a good deal of uneasiness, and I have the pleasure to tell you we have determined upon coming directly straight home, we are now on our way, tho' she is by no means well, yet the anxiety about her Father was we to remain any longer abroad would make her still worse, and these commotions in France, are arrived at such a pitch, and are carried on to very great length in the very part we had intended going, that we might be put to a number of unforeseen inconveniences being there, that all our Friends have made us determine not to attempt it – we are not positive whether we shall even endeavour to pass thro' France, that we shall enquire as we proceed farther on – If Diana has not further attacks of her Spasms, we shall be in England the latter end of April, but she is not strong enough to take long

days, that we go on but slowly, however we shall not make any stay but just to ease her. You might as well give me a line directed for me at chez Monsr. Perregeaux in Rue Santier á Paris, for if possible we shall pass that way, my Servant does not speak German, and as they are not very peaceable in many parts, there we may be troubled – I hope we shall find all things well when we get home, we never knew Sophia was going to be married till it was all over, I wish her well, I fancy Lee is not too rich, no more than myself, she is more likely to bring him a family, than mine. As the Baronet is so fond of <Trade> he will like the match, it will be something new. You are sure I wish to be at home, for as long as the warm weather continues, Diana will be very well, but it is the cold that affects her, - we are kept here by the Rain, and when it is clear we shall proceed to Florence – I mentioned to you in my last Diana had two attacks since we came to Rome – Compliments to all Friends Diana joins me in her Respects – I am Dear Skelton Most sincerely yours  
Tho Rd Beaumont

**18 May 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but mention of a codicil to Sir Thomas's will suggest that this could have been in May 1792, perhaps shortly before his final will was signed on Tues 29th May]

Dear Skelton,  
I spoke to my Friend Miss W. respecting Miss Bedford's being a Witness and she has no objections whatever. Sir Tho. asked me if I knew whether you had finished that Codicil for him and I told him you had. I hope everything will be ready – I will call on you tomorrow Evening on my return from <them> -  
I am yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Bt

Enclosed is a letter from Mr. Feald respecting the Charities, I sent him an Answer I shall be at Barnsley on Monday Morning when I should see him.

**26 May 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Enigmatic note, tentatively assigned to the weeks before the death of Sir Thomas Blackett, when his revised will was being prepared]

My Dear Skelton,  
I called upon you yesterday to enquire how you go on with my Business, as a particular Gentleman is anxious about it's being settled immediately, either tomorrow or next day. I will call on you, but if you have any good news of its being finished let

me know. We are going from home about the latter end of the Week, that we are desirous on our Return to have the matter concluded –

Yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Beaumont  
Saturday Eveng.

**7 Jul 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Letter is annotated '1792', and could date to June/July in view of Sir Thomas Blackett's terminal illness of around that time. He died on 10th July.]

Dear Skelton,  
Don't fail to come & dine here today for Sir Thomas is really very ill, much worse than he was the other day – I am [go]ing to ride to Wakefield, you might as well [co]me soon, and then you may talk to him, he knows poor Prince is dead, but he has said nothing to us about it – I told him you had said you would come over & he said he should be glad to see you –

Yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Bt

Saturday Mornng -

**9 Jul 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: presumably written two days later than previous hasty note of Saturday]

Dear Skelton,  
Sir Thomas is much the same, the Doctor has been here all Night, I shall get him to be here as much as he can, when you come from Sheffield, come over & see him.

Yours sincerely  
Tho Rd Bt  
Monday morn.g

Sir T. has had a tolerable Night, but the Fever still continues -

**1 Oct 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Oct 1st 1792

Dear Skelton,

I am very happy to find that everything respecting the Canal is so well settled, as I think we shall now be able to get everything that will make the people about us easy and happy - Mrs. Beaumont & myself are very much pleased with the purchase, and be assured we are truly sensible that every attention on your part will be for our Interest - you will think us sanguine in our wishes, but as poor Mr. Cotton's estate must go, we must beg of you to get us that & then we shall be content, let the worst happen in money matters, we have a friend in Stanhope, & as he is so rich, he will relieve us. As soon as your Friend calls here about the Galloway Thomas shall take it to my Stable & will take particular [care?] of it, & bring it down with him - as to the Coach horses I have wrote for one of them to come up immediately - Wentworth gives us real concern but are at a loss what to do - I wrote last night to Blackett - there is a Report in town & which gains much credit, that Ld. Fitzwilliam was stopped at Sheffield in his Chaise & four & had a pair taken off, as they said a pair in his Carriage was sufficient - do tell me what you think - between ourselves I will tell you a Secret, which is mentioned amongst some of the Revolution party, who I am intimately acquainted with, that affairs are here carried on in such a manner that the people are determined to show some spirit -

I will write to you tomorrow

Yours sincerely

Tho Rd Beaumont

**5 Oct 1792 Frederick James Wentworth to William Tweedale**

To Mr Tweedale

Sir

I am Scarborough without money and you are at Bretton perhaps, you will send me some money, by what conveyance you think most proper either to Scarborough - where I shall stay till Sunday - and then shall go to York and stay there a day or two, and then shall come to Bretton. If you have any thing particular to say you may send me a letter directed to <Ringroses> at York.

I am very <well> again &c from

Frederic James Wentworth

October 5th 1792

**14 Oct 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Octr. 14th 1792 -

Dear Skelton,

Yesterday we were very agreeably surprised by the arrival of Wentworth, he came in the Mail, and was very sober & well, he dined with us & in the Evening we went

together to the play, he has a room with us and seems very happy, he talks of staying until Tuesday Evening & then returning by the Mail to Liverpool, & so home. Mr. Wilson was with me & I signed the Deed. The Reports here <are> not all together so well about politics, there are several constitutional meetings at present held in the city, and intend addressing parliament for a reform, & there are above 50,000 Men of these societies, there are medals struck of, & have been sent from Scotland, purporting the same things, and there are constant correspondencies held, from Edinburgh to the Clubs here, I was yesterday in Newgate with Lord George Gordon, and met one of the Delegates there, who informed me the intention of the meetings were to have a reform, and that every Man at the Age of 21 should have a vote, and that the Nation should be divided into 6 Sections of 6000 Men each & each Section to send a Member annually, the Parliament is to meet on the 22nd Novr. & it is then expected something warm will commence – I am very happy to find you are coming up so soon. I hope we shall have all over by the time you come, tho' Diana is at present very well. Has anything been done about Cotton's Estate – I have bought six carriage horses all brown that match exceedingly well and they are to come down in about three Weeks, I will thank you when you go to Bretton to order the Postillions to take up the old four carriage horses, as the ones I shall send down will not be fit for immediate use, and as we purpose being at home in December, the old ones will serve us the Winter – I am to give Wentworth some Money as he has only eighteen Shillings, I will send you word how much – I have also some Money to pay for Louisa, all that I pay I will give you an acc[oun]t of. Payne has been writing again, and there are 6000 copies printed off already, and it is to be inserted in one of the papers, that it may be general, I have seen a Gentleman this morning, and he says from every account that is summoned, something must soon be done. Scandal says & I believe [it a :missing] great truth, the Prince of Wales was arrest<ed at> Brighthelmstone and his horses &c all seized, he came up to town in a great hurry. He is to give up 60,000£ pr An. to liquidate his debts, but if this warm business goes on, I wish some awkward steps are not taken – Diana & Wentworth unite in their Compts. hoping all your Family are well – I am  
Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

Has anything been done at Milnes's house at Flocton, or have they begun of the houses they were to build for him, I think it is too late in the year to begin – Tweedale was to send me an Acct. when the papers were payed of, I told <Linnicar> to send him in his Bill, it was due some time in October – as I intend ordering them from some other person – I hope they will have the house ready for us, as paint is not so agreeable in the smell to us, as to you. – 15th no particular news stirring today – Wentworth sets off tonight for Liverpool -

**18 Oct 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Octr. 18th 1792 –

Dear Skelton,

I was this Morning favoured with yours – and with respect to the Navigation I should certainly wish it to come to Haigh Bridge and that should certainly be kept in view – I am glad you subscribed 800£ -, we entirely leave the subscription to the other to yourself, as you know we wish to put our Money out in the Most advantageous manner for our Family, that if you think both our subscribing will be for the best, we undoubtedly would do it, at any rate you may put me down for the 2000£, if you think it eligible – and Mrs. Beaumont for any more if you think it advisable. Enclosed I send you Cockshutt's letter not having time to copy it, I think he speaks friendly to us, but you will keep it to yourself, as we put implicit confidence in you, and you well know how we stand affected for Money, we wish you to act in the purchase, as seems the best, Stanhope is a talkative man and wants Cawthorpe – Barugh certainly, as well as Kexbro' would be of advantage to us, & Haigh we must not let slip us, you well know our pockets, & our reliance in you makes us certain you will take every advantage for us – you will see what Cockshutt says about the Estate, and do whatever you think best about it – I had a letter from Blackett this Morn[in]g enclosing 5000£, and sh[oul]d any Money be wanted will send it you down – I spoke to Mr. Bosville & he seems not to wish to have anything to say about the Matter of the Navigation – when you come up Mrs. Bt. will thank you to bring a small parcel for Her, & she will order it to be sent to your house. Mrs. B. unites with me in best Compliments to you.

I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

As to Mr. Walker's Money act as you think best about it – we are anxious to know what you will do about Cotton's estate, let us hear from you soon -

**19 Oct 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Octr. 19th 1792

Dear Skelton,

I have been considering all Night about the purchase of Barugh Estate, and should really like much to have it, as if the Navigation goes on I think it will pay very well, and tho' at present we have not the Cash by us, we know we have it coming in, and we must pray for a good Lead Trade – and what we shall want at Kexbro' will not come to so much more, and Haigh very likely will not be sold immediately – but should the whole be sold at once, they will give us time to pay for it in, & we must write to Blackett – I understood the whole would not be more than 41,000£ & that I think we can stand – it will be such a handsome addition to our Estate – and I think we can manage as to Respect to Money – all these matters we leave entirely to you, the whole estate would be such a great advantage to us, and give us such great command over the Country – and Blackett must push the Sale of Lead, I will give him a line when I get

your Answer – that 6000£ of Mr. Walkers may if you purchase be of use to us – that as you think best. Enclosed I send you another letter from Cockshutt which you will keep to yourself, & not say I enclosed it to you, what he says respecting the Air & Calder proprietors seems to have great weight, and we are sure they will consider themselves and that Stanhope will not be for having it come to Haigh bridge, therefore the <Dun> people should be encouraged if they will come there, the Air should not be allowed to have such a number of Voters, as to gain always a decided Majority – I don't see if the Water reverts to them again, why they should have 1/3 advantage of the Canal, we are sure they will try all they can as they have already so many Votes, I should not wish them to have so much power vested in them, Stanhope is all for his own interest & the Devil of anything else - & as the <Dun> people are willing to do [missing word] they should be encouraged, and [missing word] spur on the others – I would not have the people allowed to have the 1/3 advantage because if they give the Water it is for their own convenience and ought not to be allowed for it. The Landholders sh[oul]d stand forwards and not suffer them. Do give my Compts. to Ellison. I would have come down, but I can't leave Mrs. B. – She unites with me in Compliments – I am

Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**25 Oct 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Octr. 25th 1792

Dear Skelton,

We must certainly do our utmost endeavours to have the Navigation up to Haigh Bridge, they should most certainly let the Subscribers have a power of extending their subscriptions in the Calder, as they must not let them have too much power, the more get in the Calder the better – by the junction they will gain a great superiority – on all occasions of this Nature they all offer very fair, till they have got their own terms – but we must do the best and fight them hard, but it all falls on you nobody being with you – with respect to the Barugh Estate, we are both of an opinion it would be wrong to let it go from us, as some person who has no other property there would come in, and altho' It will not pay us much at first, I think it will be beneficial to our Family afterwards - we must endeavour to get it for less if possible, if not at all wants to purchase it. By our taking what we have occasion for at Kexbro', and should Haigh be sold that must also be bought, it may induce them to be not quite so hard with us. Should Kexbro' be upon sale now, by taking what we want, they should give the <fold> in at Darton. I think the Land sells high, but it is too great an object to let it pass, as we must do something for our increasing family – as to the other matters of the Furnace, Bentley, Crooke &c, when we have the pleasure of seeing you here, we will talk of that – Mrs. Beaumont has not favoured us with a present as yet but we soon expect one – she joins me in Compliments – I am

Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont-

**27 Oct 1792 James Cockshutt to Thomas Richard Beaumont**

Huthwaite 27th Octr. 1792

Dear Sir,

I wrote a hurried Letter to you yesterday thinking the Communication I had with Mr. Cooke was of some moment for you to know as soon as possible. I have no doubt of his Veracity & am persuaded that if you do not think the Estate worth your acceptance @ 27000£ it will be sold to Mr. Hebden for his Client at Leeds – the Coal of which there is more than 120 Acres becomes of an increased Value in consequence of the apparent near approach of a Navigation & it is with a View to that which brings on the application of Mr. Hebden – I inform you of all I know of this Matter on which you will form your own comment & Determination –

The Navigation Scheme upon which I attended yesterday appears to me to be bro[ugh]t forwards by the Proprietors of the Air & Calder, with a very apparent Prospect of particular advantage to themselves & with the double View of procuring a supply of Coals for York & all the vicinage of the Ouse (where they are now very scantily served) & to increase the Traffic upon the Air & Calder which it will certainly do, both will be effected & those Proprietors will reap an increased Profit without either Risk or Expencc for the same Water & Locks of the Air & Calder will navigate double the Number of Boats & Keels & therefore if this new projected Canal take into those Rivers only 1000 additional Tons of Merchandize the Dues upon that will be all new Gain, but this is by no means all that is in favour of the Air & Cald. Proprietors – It is generally thought to be advantageous to all the Subscribers to the Barnsley & Wakefield projected Canal – of which the Proprietors of the Air & Cald. take to themselves 20000£ exactly one third of the whole, this gives 200 Votes to one Body of Men who will act as one Individual Person & by that means have a secure Majority of Votes on all general Points & make those Proprietors the real Directors & Governors of the whole Canal & the Business of it – a Matter in my Opinion extremely partial & a Dangerous accession of Power & what deserves the most serious attention of the Landed Gent[leme]n & Mercantile Interest of all the Country & yet appears to have been intirely overlooked – One Proof of the Use they may make of this Power appears in their gratifying W. Stanhope one of their Body in the termination of the Canal upon his Estate & the very Point where he could wish to the exclusion of others whose claim in every other Respect may well be thought preferable – They have certainly the Merit of projecting a Scheme & Line of Navigation which may & ought to [be] made generally useful to all this part of the Country, which we neglect ourselves in unpardonably if we suffer ourselves to be so controlled as to give the Helm totally into the Power of those who have an Interest distinct from the other Subscribers & from the Owners of Land & Mines & Trade generally – They make a Merit & a pointed one of

giving the Water from the Calder for the supply of this Canal – the Quantity necessary is not great & they have plenty to spare – it is moreover rather a Loan than a Gift for except Leakage & Evaporation all that is to be <pumped> out of the Calder by the fire Engines is to revert to it again & for this they are to have ?d of the Advantage of the new Canal all the Power by having 200 Votes in one Mind, And all the <Profit> of the additional Tonnage to be brought by means of it out of this Country into the Air & Calder- I write my full <Sentiments> to you in the Confidence you will use 'em only for your own consideration – If my Judgement be right of the Air & Calder Proprietors either as a Body or Individuals, it is to confine all the increasing Trade of this Circuit to their own River & in great Measure under their own control. This makes me think it necessary to encourage also the communication with the Dunn [possibly 'Dearne', and referring to the 'Dearne and Dove' Canal promoters also active at the same time] to join the Barnsley & Wakefield Canal at any place they can be brought nearest together on the same Level & then to navigate the same Chanel to Barugh Mill Dam or farther if it can be Done & from that place have the <Dun> navigation extended to Haigh Bridge or any where in that Line that may be found useful. –

The Dunn People will find considerable & perhaps insurmountable Difficulty to make a junction without the Aid of the Calder Water – the Proprietors of that will naturally be reluctant to spare any to Rivals if they can avoid it – I think it will be no unreasonable Proposition from the Landed & trading Interest of this Country that the <Propri>etors of the Air & Calder should give the whole Water necessary to either or both Canals in consideration of the increased Trade it will cause in the Air & Cald., & that the two new Navigations should divide the Expence of raising it by fire Engines in some determined Proportion – To enforce such a Coalition & encourage a navigable Line to the Dunn seems to me the Sine qua non – And in this I wish the Landed & mercantile Interest cordially to unite in order to defeat the great probability of a dangerous monopoly of Power in one Body – Without such a junction two canals or a communication with the <Dunn> cannot be effected for it cannot be expected the holders of Land or Parliament should permit their Property to be divided & the Land cut into Ribbons by two Canals where they must approach near together –

On the whole this is a Matter of great Importance, it has not been sufficiently attended to or the consequences consider'd. I shall attend the Meeting next Monday at Barnsley – if you will give me a Line with your Sentiments directed to the Post Office there no other Use than what you desire shall be made of it – you must not write later than Saturday for me to receive it in Time – with all good wishes to Mrs. Beaumont & yourself believe me your

Faithful & oblig'd Humble. Servt.

J. Cockshutt

**1 Nov 1792 George Beaumont to Thomas Richard Beaumont**

[Note: This letter is referred to in T.R. Beaumont's letter of 4th November 1792 to Mark Skelton in which TRB indicates the nature of his response.]

Leeds 1st November 1792

Dear Sir

Your Letter to Capn: Anninson I deliver'd into the Hands of Mrs. Forster of the Angel Inn, & she promis'd to give it to him herself, so that I make no doubt of his getting it, as much as if I had presented it myself which time would not permit me to do, being then in great haste to get home.

Since my return to this place, a Gentn: who is an Inhabitant, & who has some small concern in a Lead Mine in Craven, has been speaking to me relative to some of the Wastes, at your Lead Mines in the North; & has signified it, as his opinion, that by proper attention & pains taking, some advantage is to be made of the Hillocks at those Mines which have been abandoned for more than half a Century, and not likely to do good to any person, but to such as would make it his Business to be upon the Spot & see it managed.

If therefore you would think proper to make me a grant of any of those Wastes I would make an agreement with that Person to take upon himself the Superintendence of the Works & engage to give you such a proportion of the Lead which might be got out of them as might be thought reasonable. All Expense & risk we will take upon ourselves; so that if anything is to be made of them, your proportion whatever you may fix it at, will be so much clear gains; & all the favour I have to ask is the preference in case you determine to let them to any body.

I will trouble you to give my respectful Comps. to your Lady & believe me sincerely  
Dr. Sir

Geo: Beaumont

#### **4 Nov 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: At the end of this letter Beaumont informs Skelton of the birth of his first child (Thomas Wentworth Beaumont)]

Novr. 4th 1792

Dear Skelton,

I had a letter this morning from Mr. <Hebden> which I enclose you, and also one from Geo. Beaumont, and shall write to them both: as to the latter I could not make him any Grant of the Wastes, for if it will pay them so amply, it will also pay us in like manner, so that I wrote to Blakett about them, & enquired if they did Make use of those Wastes – Geo. Bacchus came up this Morn[in]g & says Wentworth was at Bretton, but going to <Netherton> a shooting – the Answer I have wrote to Mr. <Hebden> is I am sorry I cannot have the pleasure of attending the Committee, but I have requested the favour of you to attend for me – Monday the 5th – I have the satisfaction to tell you that Diana

presented me with a Son this Morning at  $\frac{1}{4}$  past eleven, and happy I can say that She & the Child are as well as can be expected –  
I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**6 Nov 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Nov. 6th 1792

Dear Skelton,  
I have the pleasure to tell you that Diana and the Child are going on as well as can be expected, it sucks famously and will soon begin to talk. Enclosed I send you a letter from Mr. Blackett – the 26 Inst. 4000£ is due, & this in a Month dated 3 inst. Diana & the Boy unite in their Compts.  
I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

**11 Nov 1792 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Novr. 11th 1792

Dear Skelton,  
I am favoured with yours, and shall be very glad to purchase any part of Haigh, as it is so very contiguous to Bretton I think it should not be missed by any means – I have not got the list of Moneys out, but any that you think most proper, will be exactly the same to us – I am sorry Wentworth goes on still in the same way, I am greatly afraid there is no hopes of amendment. Yesterday I sent down an advertisement sent me from Lincolnshire about a Bull, & told Tweedale to consult with you on the Subject. I am happy in having it in my power to say Mrs. Beaumont, and the little Boy, are both very well – I have sent this Day Mrs. Walker a Bill for 362£. 10.  
I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

**14 Nov 1792 Shepley Watson**

[Note: This document is a notice of intended enclosure of common-fields and waste lands in the parish of Wakefield.]

Wakefield  
Intended INCLOSURE

THE FREEHOLDERS, COPYHOLDERS, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS IN ANY-WISE INTERESTED in the dividing and inclosing of the Common-Fields, and Waste-Lands, within the several Townships or Graveships of Wakefield, Stanley, Wrenthorpe, Alverthorpe, and Thornes, in the Parish of WAKEFIELD, in the County of York, are requested to meet at the MOOT-HALL, in WAKEFIELD, on Monday the 26th of November Instant, at twelve o'Clock at Noon, to consider and determine on several Matters respecting this Inclosure: AND THEY ARE HEREBY PARTICULARLY INFORMED, that the Bill to be presented to Parliament, for the said Inclosure, is intended to be then read, and offered for the Signature of such Persons present as approve thereof.

By Order,  
SHEPLEY WATSON,  
Solicitor  
Wakefield, 14th Nov. 1792.

**28 Nov 1792 Westgarth Forster to Thomas Richard Beaumont**

Novr. 28th 1792

Sir,

I received your letter in regard to the workmens paying to the Clergyman at Allenheads every workman at Allenheads & Coalcleugh pays 5sh shilling Each man & Labouring Boys 3sh shillings Each & there is some Hundreds of the men that lives 15 or 20 Miles from the Chapple & comes & works their work for the week & goes back to their own Homes every week so they have no benefit from the Chapple in the least & such as lives about the place that has Childer goes to school they pay one shilling pr. Quarter for every Child which they always grumble very much about & we have all the money to collect from the workmen for the Clergyman which gives us a great deal of trouble & I think it might be much better regulated as the Chapple at Allenheads has nothing to do with the living off Allendale Town for till of late they used to be separate & if you was to fix a salary of 70£ pounds pr year upon the Chapple & to Teach the School at Allenheads a person might be got to do it & don't doubt but you would save one Hundred pounds pr. year by it & get the prayers of the Poor People for ever & I dare to say that every workman would rather work for you at 10 shillings pr year less than pay the Clergyman 1s. shilling & as to repairing the Chapple & school I have got time & every thing ready for it & shall do it in the spring as soon as the Frosts is over. I wish you much joy of your young son & good recovery to Mrs: Beaumont & am Sir with the greatest respect your Most Obedt.

Westgarth Forster

Allenheads Novr. 28th 1792

**13 May 1793 J. Wilson to Thomas Richard Beaumont**

13 May 1793

Dear Sir,

W. Lee & his Brother called upon me this Morning to inform me that a Case is laid before the Attorney Genl. On Behalf of Sir John Trevalyon respect[ing] the Will of Sir Wm. Blackett & the Recoveries suffered by Sir Thomas Blackett in order as they suppose (but upon what Grounds they do not know) to take his Opinion whether or no Sir John is not intitled to the Estates devised by Sir Wm. Blackett's Will. The Case is laid before the Atty. Genl. By Messrs. <Farrer> & Atkinson (in whose Office W. Lee either was or is) & they desired I wo[ul]d make you acquainted therewith which I promised them so to do tho' I don't see the Use of it as we don't know upon what Grounds Sir John fancies himself intitled.

I hope you get well down Please to give my Duty to my Mother when you see her & tell her we are all well & I likewise beg my Respects to Miss Bedford & your Son & am

Dr. Sir Yours respectfully

J. Wilson

Castle Street

13th May 1793

**28 May 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Tynemouth

May 28th 1793

Dear Skelton,

Enclosed I send you a paper that was found in the office respecting the Money that I mentioned to you, as perhaps it may be of some use to you, but from what I learn the Money if due to us, would scarcely pay the Expense. In a letter from Sophia to day James Lee has been served with the Letter from the Chancellor, & they are all damned angry about it, she does not say much, but they are astonished Louisa has heard nothing about it, now he has been served with a notice, I hope they will not proceed in the manner as was first mentioned in Cockshut's letter, as I imagine every end is answered by that notice to him, or will they settle a certain allowance for her, and let the surplus go to accumulate – I think every end is now answered & the less expense we are at the Better – if the process can now <slow>, all we want is obtained, and no further expense need be made, as he now can't run off with her. My dear little Boy is assisting me to write this and is in high spirits. I wrote to you yesterday –

I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

Our house is not quite <so> large as Bretton & tho' we are 15 in family and not two rooms in a floor, yet we are very comfortably lodged, it is a peculiar mode of building here -

**6 Jun 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Tynemouth June 6th 93

Dear Skelton,

I have the pleasure of yours, and am very happy to say that we all go on very well, our dear Boy has bathed twice and it agrees with him very well. It is very odd what can become of Phipps opinion, no account can in any manner be given of it here. We have not heard any more about Sir John's claim that I hope will subside, I do not see myself the absolute necessity of a Gen[era]l Retainer unless we have some reason of supposition, & in that case I think Sir John would have retain'd the ablest Men, if Mr. Wilson has some Idea that they will alter the Grounds, which I wish he could inform himself about, then it would be absolutely <requisite>, but as you are more conversant in this matter than us, we leave matters entirely to your discretion. I hope now Mr. Lee has been served with notice, that everything will now stand as they are, as every purpose is now obtained, we don't want him to have her Annuity curtailed. As to the N. Castle accounts, I can say no more than before, I <dine> there tomorrow & will make some more inquiry – the Cottons don't seem to have mentioned any terms nor price of their Estate. I will write to Hammersley this post. I am glad they are getting on with the Chimnies, I have payed Mrs. Walker her 362£. 10s. she drew as before for it on the Banker, I sent Maria hers also, they must credit me in the account. I have no objection to the Security you mention for the Money, and it may be put out to your client – I wish you would let me know when they fix a price on the Haigh Estate, what are their terms and when the money is to be paid for the Cash purchase, and whether you will want the papers I have looked up, & if you think my being at home for a few days would hasten them in getting forwards with the House, we have nothing here going forwards that requires my attendance if I can be of any service at home.

Mrs. Beaumont unites with me in Compts –

I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**11 Jun 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Tynemouth June 11th 1793

Dear Skelton,

In a letter from Bosville he says he had seen Sir John Trevelian but that he had not mentioned anything to him respecting the Business – Stanhope called upon us yesterday, and said he was informed at N. Castle that Sir John Scott had desired a little

time to consider upon the Question in point, how far his authority may be good I know nothing, thus far, we have never heard anything. One thing to us seems particular (but I cannot see that can be any reason to suspect there is anything going forwards by Sir J.) which is this, old Blackett used constantly to hear from him nearly every week, and when I mentioned the Affair to him, he said he could not imagine there could be anything in the <report>, but that he had not heard from him of above three weeks which he was much astonished at. If there should be any truth in Stanhope's report, it looks as if they fancied there was some Grounds for litigation, in that case it would certainly be highly necessary to retain Council, I wish you could in any manner find the grounds of his Claim, that might be some satisfaction, but as we are all in the dark even as to the certainty of his having taken any opinion of any consequence, every precaution necessary with respect to the retaining of Council should be taken if you think it necessary but all those matters we leave implicitly to you. I don't recollect whether I told you Bell of Hexham said there was a will made, with the very same words expressed in it, & that an eminent Man had given his opinion about it, & said that it was of no consequence that it was plain how it was intend[ed] it should be left & he was sure if Sir John had no other Grounds that would not signify – Straker told me he had sent you some accounts about the lead Pays. it is very strange what can become of the opinion of Mr. Phipps, I wrote to the Barkers about the Money has anything more been done about Cottons affairs, have they set any price upon the Estate. The annuities are to be paid the 24th inst. I suppose you will hear something from Mr. Lee, did he never answer the letter you wrote him. We shall stay here till about the 3rd of next Month. I hope you will hear from Wilson what they are doing about Louisa, I hope that will now stop – I am happy to say Mrs. B, & our dear Boy are very well [he?] has bathed 5 times and it quite [word(s) missing - torn page]

Diana joins me in Compliments I am

Dr Skelton Most sincerely Yours –

Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

### **18 Jun 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Kit Black was possibly Christopher Blackett, Newcastle lead merchant and later agent to the Beaumonts]

Tynemouth

June 18th 93

Dear Skelton,

I wrote to you this day and enclosed the papers you sent executed. In conversation with Mr. Blackett, I find he only offered to sale 15,000 Pieces, and only sold to Kit Black 5000 Pieces – I cannot get any explanation about accounts from him or Straker, You had better write yourself without mentioning my Name, as wishing to know how the Accounts stand, and as he well knows you are empowered by us to act, you can explain what you wish in such a manner they must answer as you want. I am <tender>

on the Subject, as it is evident to everyone he is low spirited, and does not want to have things settled – he says lead falls in price, & no demand, but when they talk about Lead at the Change, they want longer credits & lower price – there is a test of Silver to be taken off at Bladon Mills, Mr. Mulcaster sent me word, it is to be on Friday next. Mr. B – says the last was only 5.5d - & falling – I wish you would enquire the London price for Virgin Silver, for it is very likely as the same people have always had our Silver, they may want to make a job – Lead & Silver will never pay us at this rate, with Long Bills – I wish you could come over here – if Silver falls at the rate mentioned it will never pay for the smelting – I saw the other day at Bladon that several pigs of Lead had been cut, they all ways leave this lead upon the road, by which means any persons, which is the custom, cut any thing off they may want, and the carriers leave their loads as they think proper. <Query> was I to build a place round with a high wall & a house near it, or something to secure the lead when left, would it pay, as Several pigs are lost in a Year, and could not every person who carries lead be obliged to lay it in the same place, if nearly central? Are the people carriers responsible – I wish you could contrive it so, as to come over, about the latter end of July or beginning of August & then you can settle with them here, & come to us at Hexham – I think you will find there will be something about the enclosure, will call your attendance, & the Boundaries Bell mentioned have not I think been rode. – do contrive about coming here, and then we shall know by that time what Mr. Fearne says. I will send Mr. Williamson’s opinion when I get it – I hope you will settle with Lee & Louisa about their Money on the 24th inst. – as I would not have them to be a day without being settled with – she will want her Money, & you will know what he wants – either to have his Money or to pay what he owes us, because if we don’t mention to them that either we make the payment of the Half Years income, or make some agreement of settlement, they will never forgive our inattention & will always talk of it - & it would never do for us in the situation we stand with them, to give any opportunity of saying we were behind in payments, and especially as Lee wished to come to some settlement about the House, they are very much hurt about this last Business, & would be glad to lay hold of any <pretence> therefore we must not lay ourselves open, as he wrote to you about the purchase of the <Estate> might be settled. – I find they will not come to us since this last Business has happened she seems very anxious but the Family will not allow of it. <Wm> is gone over to Cockshutt to talk to him about it. I hope Louisa’s income will not be stopped, as it will only incur more expense – we have obtained now all we want on that <.....> -

I am Dear Sk[elton] Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont –

N.B.

In a letter from <Hebden> of Leeds he requests my attendance at Wakefield on the 24th inst. on Canal Business at 11 o-Clock in the forenoon at the White Hart – his Letter is dated the 14th inst.

**20 Jun 1793**

[Note: Printed hand bill /notice]

BRETTON HALL, June 20, 1793

FISH STOLEN

---

On Saturday Night or Sunday Morning last,  
The SHUTTLE of a FISH-POND,  
In the Grounds of  
THOMAS RICHARD BEAUMONT, Esq;  
Was Broken, and a great Quantity of TENCH  
And TROUT taken thereout.

WHOEVER will give such Information of the  
Offender or Offenders, as may lead to his or  
Their legal Conviction, shall, receive a Reward of  
TEN GUINEAS,

By applying to the STEWARD at BRETTON HALL,

Divers Trespasses having lately been committed,  
And much Damage done in the WOODS, PLEASURE  
GROUNDS, PRIVATE ROADS and DEMESNE LANDS,  
At Bretton aforesaid; and the GAME destroyed by  
Poachers and unqualified Persons within the several  
Manors of Bretton, High Hoyland, Netherton, Flock-  
Ton, Cawthorne, and Cumberworth,

Notice is hereby given,  
That all Trespasses will in future be considered as  
wilful, and punished accordingly as the Law directs.

Proper Persons are appointed to preserve the GAME,  
And Rewards will be paid on the Conviction of Offenders.

**23 Jun 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Tynemouth  
June 23. 93

Dear Skelton,

Enclosed I send you Mr. Williamson's opinion which he sent me on Friday last. I got yours last Night with the opinion of Mr. Phipps, if you wish me to shew it to Mr. Williamson; I shall see Mr. Blackett tomorrow and will ask him about the deeds. Mr. Marshall and Lady Wentworth were the <only> two Sisters of Sir Wm. Blackett that had any children – Mrs. Westcomb is the daughter of the Son of Mr. Marshall who was expressly left out in the Will – the estate being left to her children by any future Husband. Write by return of the post, and tell me what I am to do with the opinion. – I am

Dear Skelton Yours most Sincy.  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

N.B.

Two Gentlemen have been at me from Hexham about the enclosure, Bell writes me word he will be here next Week, what is to be done about riding the Boundaries – you will act as you think best about Mr. Fearn's opinion -

**30 Jun 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: postscript added by Diana Beaumont – see letter of same date]

Tynemouth  
June 30th 1793

Dear Skelton,

I have not sent you the copy of the Will, but will keep it until I have the pleasure of giving it to you myself, we stay here till the 8th of next Month, and then proceed to Hexham, we shall be very happy either to see you here or there, whichever is most convenient to yourself. I don't myself think we shall hear any more from Sir John or at least I hope not. The Agents come down to N: Castle on Monday for subsistence money, but whether Mr. Blackett has it or not, I can't say, nothing has been mentioned to me about cash, I shall be there, and shall hear more about it - Mrs. B. is writing to Mr. Cockshutt and says that as Louisa is made a Ward, all is attained, and that you will settle with Mr. Wheat. I can readily imagine that Mr. Cotton will not easily acquiesce to the selling of Haigh, and that you must have a number of meetings without effect. I shall have no objection to Mr. Clay having the 4000£. Mr. Wilson is a very safe steady Man, I wonder he wants Money as a Preacher one would have thought he must be rich – I am glad Tooke is settled with; Milner will most certainly make his house too large for a Farm House, & we have a gentleman's house sufficient without any more upon the Estate – I have not heard from Mr. Waterhouse. I had a letter from Mr. Hebden to attend a meeting of theirs – I am glad to find they get on with the Build[in]g at Bretton – Mich[ae]l may have the Deputations – I should like to catch the Men who dried the Pond, but we are too near the Manufacturies & have too many old offenders to get them to impeach – don't you think it will be too early to open the collieries at Swalwell

Farm, as it is too near Thorpe, - Mr Blackett has put hand Bills out to endeavour to put a Stop to the people cutting the Lead, he thinks it may be of some use, & offers 10 Guineas reward upon conviction. Mrs. B. will add a postscript –

I am Dear Skelton

Yours most sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**30 Jun 1793 Diana Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: postscript added to Col Beaumont's letter of the same date]

Sir

Many thanks for your kind Enquiries after my little Boy, he is perfectly well & improves daily, I hope you will soon see him. I am very anxious for your coming into the North & beg you will delay as little as you possibly can, for I think you are much wanted, you will never get the proper Accounts unless you do come, Mr. Beaumont is delicate on the Subject but you must waive that delicacy & ask plainly for them. – I have recd. a very handsome Letter from Mr. Cockshutt, I am hurt at an expression Mrs. Wm. Lee makes use of in her Last Letter, she says 'I am sorry to say the whole Business has made Mr. Beaumont appear in a very strange Light to the World, a person's Word is not <readily> forgot' I have written to her for an Explanation, Mr. Beaumont had no Consent to give or to refuse, neither did he Act in the Business. Miss W. being made a Ward of Chancery is a Measure Universally approved in this part of the Country, it has been a great disappointment to Mr. Lee's Family – Miss Allott is with me but returns to Durham on Thursday, She joins with ne in Compts. Wentworth sends you a Shake of the Hand.

Your Sincere Hble. Servt

D. Beaumont -

**11 Jul 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: with postscript by Diana Beaumont]

Hexham Abbey

July 11th 1793

Dear Skelton,

With respect to the paying the £300 to Elizabeth Laycock, I am certain she can give no security for the Money <per> that of her sisters but Mr. & Mrs. Lee have let her enter into Partnership at York upon the strength of her being able to take her Sisters money and everything is drawn up and signed, & Mrs. Lee wrote to us about the Money. If she takes her own £100 we must let her have £200 & she pay the interest to her sisters & in case of failure we must stand to the Loss I suppose, Mr. & Mrs. Lee never consulted

us on the occasion, but as it is done we cannot undo it, the it is by no means by our approbation that the Money is paid.

I am afraid they will want an engine at Swalwell for the Coals – Particular care should be taken before Mr. Thornton enters that the Chapel may not come under the bishop for if he can lay hold of it he will, and when there comes to be duty done twice a day, and a Clergyman payed by us for attend.[ance] upon it, and burial service performed, without the clergyman being a curate to the parish church, & receiving the surplus fees, a proper agreement should be made also that he should be obliged to teach the Children writing and Accounts & previous to his entry at a fixed price, and as he is to have <boarders> the price should be fixed, & that he should not go away without giving six Months notice, & if we disapprove of him that he must take six Months - , and the description of the Children that he is to teach, that is how many from Poor people that cannot pay much, & that are to come under the Money we give, and the fees for burying & christening should be settled, all these preliminaries should be duly attended to, & his own principles whether he is a party Man, Mr. Elliott talks much about party, one may have the same Ideas as the other – I am very glad they got on so well with the Chimnies. Stanhope mentioned that they had cut down one of his trees, I <said> I was glad of it it was much better than having one too few, but as to that I could say nothing, if it was so, the matter would soon be rectified – Mrs. Beaumont will add a line –

I am Dear Skelton Most sincerely yours  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

### **11 Jul 1793 Diana Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: postscript added in faint hand to Col Beaumont's letter of the same date]

Sir –

If you think Mr. Stephenson is likely to suit, I should imagine it would be necessary to give Mr. <Hodshon> & the Schoolmaster Notice immediately that they are to give up this Duty at Xmas next, we should expect Mr. Stephenson w[oul]d read Prayers & Preach in the Morn[in]g. & in the Afternoon read Prayers only, & when you give the notices be so good as Say we wish to have Duty done twice a Day w[hic]h is the reason we make the change, we shall allow 40£ <per Ann:> for the Duty & 20 for the School & for w[hic]h we shall send 12 Poor Children, & change them as we think proper Yearly or half Yearly, he must engage a Woman to teach the Girls plain Work & what is necessary in those Schools & he must provide a Clerk. I will thank you to explain these things to Mr. Stephenson that there be no mistakes; in regard to the Boarders, it is optional in the Parents whether they send their Children or not, therefore I should imagine it w[oul]d be necessary for Mr. Stephenson to make application to the Parents, & if we find the School answers we may afterwards think of adding Bedrooms by raising the Wings –

Mr. <S> will not Dine with the Servants on a Sunday as formerly but must Dine at his own House: I am perfectly satisfied in regard to Louisa's Chancery Business, I have done my Duty, w[hic]h is <generally> approved, Mr. James Lee wrote to Mr. Bt. w[hic]h he has answered I cannot <convince> Mrs. W. Lee Mr. Bt. had nothing to do with it. I was the person – I am Dr. Sir, Yours &c  
D. B-

**24 Jul 1793 Diana Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Hexham Abbey July 24th 1793

Dear Sir,

I enclose you a Letter Mr. Beaumont recd. the Day before Yesterday from Tweedale, & which I answered in strong terms; the part respecting the Altering of the Back Staircase we do not clearly comprehend. I have told him we must not have any alterations made without our being first Acquainted with the intended plan; when we left Bretton we particularly order[e]d the bottom of the Back Stairs to be closed up & Boarded; by his description we conclude it is done with Stone, as he says the Hall Floor calls for a new one of the same Derby Stone. We do not intend having anything done at the Hall until the new Dining Room & Library are finished, for the Workmen will always, if they are allowed, begin New Work before the Old is rendered complete & when we do new Floor the Hall, it will be with Boards, w[hic]h was the reason we intended to have had the bottom of the Staircase Boarded also, but if it is already done with Stone, it will only add to the expense to have it now changed. If it is finished by this time, they will have been more expeditious than usual; if you have time I will be much obliged to you if you will have the goodness to go to Bretton & give me your opinion of what is done, & doing, if Tweedale means the flight of Stairs that landed in the Cellar is changed to the other side, and the Door at it is a trap Door (w[hic]h he omitted to Name as such), I think the change will be for the better as it leaves the Square Place B quite clear, but even then he ought to have taken the trouble of informing Mr. Bt. previous to his beginning it, or if the Stairs in the Cellar were taken away I see no reason why they were put up on the other side, for so seldom as the Trap Door was raised a Ladder might have served to carry the Coals when required thro' the Trap Door to the Upper part of the House; - We have had much trouble about the Servants Liverys & shall be I fear unpleasantly situated at the Newcastle Assizes which begin on Saturday the 29th, for we must be out of Mourning, & all our Servants in Mourning if their Clothes don't arrive in time. Mr. Beaumont wrote to Tweedale Yesterday to hasten Drake. I fear Tweedale don't <exert> himself; -

I hope Mr. Stephenson will give his Vicar suff[icien]t Notice to provide himself with another Curate – We are quite impatient for your coming, indeed you are much wanted. I hope it will be soon after the Assizes. We shall return here on the 2nd or 3rd of July & go to Allenheads on the 11th to be ready for Mr. Beaut. to destroy all the

Game. He is so busy playing with his Son, he desired I would write to you; you will find the Child much improved he is perfectly well. General Grant & his Aid de Camps have been with us since Monday Inhabitants of the Old Abbey. Mr. Phipps came to us last Saturday & leaves us tomorrow. He will be at Home on Saturday. We Dine every Day in the Ball Room , when it Rains it is rather inconvenient crossing the Court to go to Dinner. Mr. Beaumont has recd. two of the most Insolent Letters I ever read from Mr. James Lee, he is desperate & a complete Bully. More of this when we meet, he is a contemptable Fellow, & a disgrace to the Law – I hope you have settled everything with Mr. Wm. Lee, I understand he is as Violent as his Brother, but dare not stand forth. It is a g[rea]t loss to their Family £3000 per Ann, but they will have it in 18 Months when Miss W. is of Age.

I am Dear Sir Your sincere Hble Servt  
Diana Beaumont

**28 Jul 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated and difficult to date. There is no obvious letter amongst the many from JEBlackett to Beaumont relating to a possible land transaction. Mention of Stephenson might indicate that it followed earlier correspondence with him in July 1793 and this letter it has been provisionally dated accordingly]

Dear Skelton,

Enclosed I send you a letter from Mr. Blackett, & I wrote him for ans[we]r that from the Statement of the Land, and the opinions that had been given on the Subject it appeared to me that the Ground &c should be purchased. I also required he would let me know what mon[e]y would be wanted. I wrote to Mr. Stephenson & he will shew You my letter when should the Leases be signed whether they are for a Year or otherwise. We are all well here –

Yours sincerely T.R.B.  
Saturday

**27 Sep 1793 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Although not dated by TRB, the letter is annotated in another hand, possibly Skelton's, as received on 28 Sept 1793.]

Buxton  
Saturday –

Dear Skelton,

I received yours, I am happy in saying we think ourselves much better for this place, and shall leave this tomorrow, and be at home on Monday Evening – Enclosed are some letters from N: Castle, which you will please to answer immediately. There is one

also from Bell, he seems to think Soulsby had no right to take his corn away, he should have seen about that, I saw the corn measured in the Sessions room upstairs but gave no orders about it being taken away, nor ever heard any more said about it, I think the market at Hexham should be regulated by a Standard measure otherwise the Lord of the Manor may constantly be in litigations – you will give what answer you think proper about the Chief of Beaufront, they cannot do anything with him, as he is now under a Statute of Lunacy, and by that no proceeding can take place, Hardbottle I think should not receive a <Key>, it would shew that Errington had a right to do it – Mrs. Beaumont unites in Compts. We have had charming accounts of our dear Boy –  
I am Dr. Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

Enclosed is also a letter from Abbott about the prices of trees at Tynemouth for plantg at Allenheads – I think we should not sell any lead just yet, but wait to see what the East India contract will do, you see Blckett wants to sell 30,000 Pieces at 16£ 10s. you will consider that in your own Mind -

**21 Jan 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

No. 4 – Portman Square  
Jany. 21st 94.

Dear Skelton,

I can with pleasure say we arrived all perfectly safe & well on Sunday Evening & our dear Boy performed his Journey very well. We like our house very well only the furniture is very antique w[hi]ch does not altogether suit our Modern Ideas but in a little time we shall get accustomed to it – I have seen Mr. Bosville every day here, and this Morning I spoke to him he says he will endeavour by May to let us have the Money, & should he have more than he wants himself will assist me. The unusual cry is war, & it is currently repeated today amongst people who are high in Office that there will be no dissenting Voice. I have not seen the Bankers, I waited till I had their Answer from You. Mrs. Bt. desires her Compts. I sent the Wills - I am

Dear Skelton Most sincerely Yours  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

I spoke to Mr. Noble about getting a Machine for chopping straw for the Cart horses, pray how is Tweedale.

**1 Feb 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Feby. 1st 94 –

Dear Skelton,

Enclosed I send you a letter from the Bankers, I have seen them this Morning, & they are engaged in the present Loan – I told them we shall want some pretty large sums this Month, & to hold themselves in readiness, I asked them if they could advance us any money, they said it was a bad time at the time they were engaged in the Loan, but desired I would let them know as soon as possible what we should want. I have made an Offer to Government to raise a Reg[imen]t of light Horse, it is to be laid before the King the next cabinet to see if he approves of my manner, it is to be no expense to Government & I am to be the Lt. Colonel. I shall hear the Kings determination about it soon and will write you word of it. Mrs. Beaumont & the dear Boy are both very well – She desires her Compts. I am Dear Skelton,  
Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**21 Mar 1794 Diana Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Year not given but reference to the Stacpoole case suggests it was in 1794, as legal opinions in the case were taken that month, and the cause launched in Chancery. William Stacpoole had eloped with Louisa Wentworth, Diana's sister.]

Portman Square March 21st

Dear Sir,

I have defer'd answering your Letter till I should receive a Copy of Mr. Lloyds Opinion from Mr. Cockshutts Solicitor (Mr. Owen) which I have this Mornng. done. Mr. Cockshutt is certainly right to Act on safe grounds, & as appears by the enclosed Opinion of Mr. Lloyd it was highly necessary he should inform himself of the consequences &c &c for it would have been extremely unpleasant for him to be censured & punished by the Court for not properly discharging the Trust imposed by my Fathers Will; I have dreaded having anything to do with a Lawsuit since that foolish affair all had with Lady Mexbro', yet I think it is advisable to take the best Opinions & throw away a few pounds to save Many. Who may be lost without taking proper Advice. Mr. Beaumont & myself never had an Idea of instituting any suit concerning Mr. & Mrs. Stacpoole, for it can only be done by her Trustees, Mr. Beaumont never Named to me the request that he should only employ Mr. Wilson (the Agent) who I did not know was concerned in Makg. Mrs. Stacpoole a Ward of Chancery, as Mr. Wilson of Bartlets Buildings (who Mr. Beaumont introduced to me as a very clever sensible Man in his profession) informed me Mr. Cockshutts Solicitor was employed in the Business; Mr. Wilson of Bartlets Buildings was with Mr. Beaumont the Mornng. he set off for Yorkshire & we conversed with him on the Subject which was the reason I employ[e]d him in Stating the case.

My little Boy is quite well & desires his Compts. – he is the Master of the Family & is as Mischievous as a Monkey –

I am Dear Sir Your sincere Hble Sert

Diana Beaumont

**23 May 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

May 23d. 94

Dear Skelton,

On my arrival here I had the satisfaction of finding Diana & the dear Boy both very well, & everything going on as I could wish. Since I have come I have not had one moment to myself, we have both been at Court & kissed Hands, and the arrangements of my Regiment never allow me to be in the house. We leave town on Tuesday next, and shall be at Doncaster about Saturday, Mrs. Beaumont will come home but I shall not till some days afterwards.

I am Dear Skelton Yours most sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

In haste

**22 Jul 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Barracks Manchester

22d. July 1794

Dear Skelton,

I am just favoured with yours, and am sorry to say no more than 1500£ was bid for the house. With respect to the 25,000£ to be paid in the beginning of September, I am greatly at a loss to know what to do about it, Mr. Blacket is our main stay in those matters, if he fails we shall all be aground, you must endeavour to do all that you can to procure us some, at any rate the subsistence must be paid, and all exertions must be tried if some cannot be found. I <expect> Child cannot have his discharge when no account he is returned upon the Strength of the Regiment & it is too late – I am D[ea]r Skelton

Yours sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Bt. -

**9 Sep 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Although not dated, this letter refers to the birth of TRB's second son William who was born on 9 September 1794, which was a Tuesday]

Thorpe  
Tuesday

Dear Skelton,

I have the pleasure to tell you Mrs. B. presented me with a Boy at 6 o'Clock this Mornng. And both She & the Child are as well as can be expected.

Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. Bt.

**11 Sep 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Thorpe Hall, near Rudston, North Yorks, was the home of William Bosville, suggesting the identity of the name 'Bosville' (or less plausibly 'Boriske') mentioned in this and subsequent letters]

Thorpe

Sepr. 11th 94.

Dear Skelton,

I am very sorry to find the awkward dilemma we are at present in, the Bills Mr. Blackett did not give me, he had not got them, and they are not due until November, he has sold eight thousand pieces, there will not I am afraid be any more sold until the East India company want their quantity. I have spoke to Mr. <Bosville> he has not any. Mr. Hall his Steward is expected here soon, & he will speak to him. What is become of the 6000£ that Miss Wentworth had to put out. I spoke to Lord Strafford when at Bretton respecting the House, he said he had given orders to Mr. Gee to appoint a person to value it: he apologized to me for not answering my letter, he does not want to part with any money, nor does he like to do any business. I would have the chestnut & bay horse that came down from town sent to Howden Fair, & the chestnut mare. I had intended the Doncaster horse but he is here. See what you think they will fetch, the Mare I don't think worth much, the two horses I think will fetch about eighty, they <sell> high & they will do for a carriage. Ashton can say what Dodgson would give. The Charger I am afraid is not fat enough or he would sell well for these Yeomanry Cavalry. I will meet Ashton at Howden, you did think once of going yourself let me know that, and what day. I am glad you have ordered the Bull to be fed, he is a dangerous beast. We must postpone all that we can till we can procure some money. I hope you will be able to procure some Money for our present exigencies, is there no one that can be found who has any to put out. I have the pleasure to say that Mrs. B. & the little Boy go on very well, Wentworth is quite pleased with his Brother, it is called W[illia]m. Mr <Bosville> is quite happy & plays with Wentworth. Let me know how you get on.

I am Dear Skelton Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. Bt. –

Bad news from the Continent. The <Show> for horses begins the Week before the fair day at Howden -

**13 Sep 1794 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: It appears from the content that this letter was written in September of 1794.]

Thorpe 13th 94.

Dear Skelton,

I have the pleasure to say that Mrs. Beaumont and the little Boy are as well as can be expected. She recovers wonderfully and he looks better every day, as he made his appearance sooner than was expected he does not appear in the same light as Wentworth did, being so much less, however he is a fine Babe & seems likely to do well. I purpose being at home on the 22d or 23d inst. I hope by that time you will have been able to procure some money for the subsistence, would not Beckett be able to procure a small Sum for the present, till some inquiry can be made, if I see Mr. Hall I will ask him he got six thousand for <Bosville>. I should <imagine> money is not so very scarce but a two or three thousand might be had, as we must have it some <plan> must be taken to have it immediately and every exertion must be used, I will make inquiry amongst my Friends for no delay can be afforded –

I am Dear Skelton

Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**7 Feb 1795 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: The enclosure referred to is probably the letter from John Sparke to TRB dated 21 Jan 1795.]

Dear Skelton,

Enclosed I send you a Bill which was sent me, & ought to have been paid some time since – I am sorry Mr. Parker can't get the Money. Mr. Blackett says he will let me know his <Resources> & what there is to pay soon, & then I will speak to the Bankers. I think if we are short I could get a few thousands here on Bond. You must act as you think best respecting the <Man> at <Culerworth>. <Senior> appears to merit encouragement & I think we ought not to let him sell it to any one else. The Surveyor of the Highways for <Cawthorne> may have that piece of land – if Ashton thinks the horses will sell better at Northaller[ton] they may go. If Mr. <Hugh> thinks the Bull in suit, & it is necessary I should have one, & the Heifer also, & you will say how they are to be got home, & give me your opinion, I will write to my Uncle about them. We are all very well & the Boys come on a pace; no <great> signs of peace as yet.

I am Yours sin[cerely]

Tho. Rch. Bt

P.S.

Enclosed I send you a curious epistle.

**22 Jun 1795 Diana Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Tynemouth June 22nd 1795 –

Dear Sir,

Col: Beaumont was only able to stay with me one Day after his return from Yorkshire, & I fear it will be some Days before he will have it in his power to leave Morpeth, & probably so much engaged that he may not have time to inform you of a conversation I had with Mr. John Surtees in the Colonels absence respecting the Bank, it began by my Explaining to him that Col: Beaumont's Land Agent here was also Agent to Mr. Bosville & transacted his Business w[i]th the other Bank w[hic]h occasioned the Mistake on their part, he said they were certainly hurt at the time as the other Bank w[oul]d think it strange; but he was sorry that Mr. Burdon had troubled us with the Complaint, we then conversed on the Subject of the Division of Hammersleys House, & I asked him the Question if Col: B – should make any changes what their House w[oul]d be willing to allow; I told him this was merely conversation at present, he said Col: Beaumonts affairs in this Country were certainly a great Object & they would step forward in a Manner they would not do to any other person, & conceived it w[oul]d be infinitely more convenient to Col: B. to have his Affairs transacted here (that of course he would say), & he appeared to hint that they would allow 3 pr Cent for all Money in their Hands & 5 pr Cent for Money when advanced, & as I understood for them to find Cash for Pays &c, he said Sir Rd. Glynn & Co (their Bankers) would do everything we required in London the same as Mr. Hammersley's, & on the Account of their Bank, he said Mr. Burdon would be at Newcastle the first of July, & as they could do nothing without consulting together, if Col: Beaumont chose after that time to have conversation with them they would be prepared to answer; Col: B. inform'd me you would make Enquiries at Hull respecting a Bank that would allow 5 pr Cent for Money laying in their Hands in the Manner his does, I should greatly fear no good firm would hold out those terms, in your Answer to Col: B. pray say what you think of what I have above Named & if you think it w[oul]d be advisable, we certainly have found that Money being sent from London is troublesome & expensive & independant of that Conversation I fear when the division <is> taken place Hammersley will not have <strength> suff[icien]t & Col: B might easily <excuse his ta... his Money until then or be found it would> be more convenient for him to have his Money at Newcastle w[hic]h would give no Offence to either Party –

[In Col. Beaumont's hand:] Since Mrs. Beaumont wrote this, I got yours, and have desired her to explain some things, and let me have your Ans[we]r –

[D.B. resumes as follows:] June 29th – Col: Beaumont has this Mornng left me, he has shown me yr. Letter respectg. the Banks & desires I will send what I had before written supposing Col: B can find a Bank that will give & take 5 pr Cent & he pay all expenses accordg. to yr. Letter with 2 pr Ct on Payment will that be more advantageous than Burdon & Surtees allowing 3 per Ct & recg. 5 pr Ct. & to charge no expenses; he has not seen Burdon & Co. & will not till he receives your answer, it certainly w[oul]d be more advantageous to have his Business transactions here; I had much Conversation with Mr. C. Blackett last Week, he says Mr. Blackett ought to ask for the Bills immediately of the Lead buyers & <not> let them remain for some Months before he demands [word missing] then we could not be <losers> as by Dr. Hall, & those Bills [word missing] deposited in the Banks we deal with; I shall Name this & many other things to-morrow at Newcastle to Mr. Blackett for Col: Beaumont is so much Engaged with his Reg[iment]t he has not had time to attend to his private concerns here & is much hurried at this time for he goes to his Encampment on Wednesday it is only 6 Miles from Tynemouth, Mr. Carr the Clergyman still receives the 5s for each Miner, I shall endeavour to settle that, for the Miners complain of it, Nothing I find is done respecting Mr. Foster of Allenheads, he has taken a Farm of 300£ per Ann: & is now in possession, he must attend to both, Mr. Blackett I am inform'd thinks of fixing Mr. Crawhall who is under Mr. Dickinson & Mr. Emmerson & it should be done soon. Young Foster drinks as hard as his Father, & has no conduct, he w[oul]d do to remain under Agent as he is; when the Weather is fine I am going to stay a Week at Allenheads & with Mr. Dickenson, & take Wentworth with me, Col: B. says they will not let him leave the Camp, but I find it really necessary one of us should go – I have conversed with some of the Agents respectg. a proper Person surveying all the Mines, & none appear to object, but say they wish it - I will enquire about Mr. Stacpooles Papers at Newcastle, Col: B. took them to Mr. Blackett, when all is done respectg. them I will take care they shall be sent to you without loss of time; direct to Col: B. here. I conclude all is settled regarding the Rents as Col: B. has not Named the Subject to me –  
Yr. Obedt. Sert.  
D. Beaumont

**14 Jul 1795 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated but likely to have been written soon after 7th July 1795 when Middleton died and Beaumont emerged as the only candidate to replace him. 14th and 21st were the subsequent Tuesdays. See <http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1790-1820/constituencies/northumberland> for an account of this by-election]

Ferrybridge Tuesday Mornng- 2 o' Clock

Dear Skelton,

I am thus far advanced on my road to Town, & what will astonish you, between ourselves, I go to canvass as Member for the County, Sir Wm. Middleton being dead. I have settled with Surtees's Bank, and they have advanced the 20,000£, & will any more I may have occasion. I will settle with Ransom & Morland's House, & if I can do anything whilst in London direct to me at Messrs. Cox & Greenwoods Craigs Court London. I will see you as I return. All is well at Tynemouth. Yours sincerely  
T.R. Beaumont

Settle as you see best about the poor, & give what you think is proper for us to do.

**27 Jul 1795 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated, but Northumberland had declared his support for Beaumont in writing by 22nd July 1795. 27th was the following Monday.]

Monday –

Dear Skelton,

I have the pleasure to say I have got all the Duke of Northumberland's Interest, all the Grey's, & the Blakett's and all the rest of that party I am sure of, that I think there is little doubt of any opposition nobody has as yet started. I shall see Mr. Pitt this morning & propose being with you on Thursday Evening or Friday Morning I shall not be able to stay therefore you must be prepared for me. I will bring some <chicks> with me. I am

Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

**12 Jan 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Dated based on annotation in (presumably) Skelton's hand]

Dear Skelton,

I should rather think that at this time Land would sell very badly, but if upon enquiry we could have a good price, it would certainly be better to sell Cleckheaton, than to be at any great expense in making Fences. Oliver will certainly want Land near his House and as James Greenwood until that <field> near <Crows> House I should think Oliver has a prior claim to Mrs. <Heron>, but if he don't want it I have no objections to her having it. I will converse with Sir <I.> Sinclair about his intended Bill. We could by no means think of Mr. Bartholomew working about the House certainly, but he may draw his Money at 9d. a week – Stackpool has given up all thoughts of making any distress in Northumberland – I wrote to Mr. Blakett upon the Subject. Mrs. B and the Boys are very well. I am Dr. Skelton

Yours Sincerely

Tho. Rd. Bt.

[In another hand, presumably Skelton's, at head of letter:] <Gill> of Leeds Printer Bill 7  
– 15 Cleckheaton

This recd. Jany. 13th 96 in ans to one abt Cleckheaton <....>

**19 Jan 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Jany. 19th 1796

Dear Skelton,

I should have answered your letters sooner but as Mrs. Beaumont begged leave to produce the Young Lady in such a hurry, I had a number of letters to write, with respect to the disposing of the Estate at Cleckheaton, I should not imagine this to be a good time, for when any commodity of Life is so very dear and Money, or at least in town, is very scarce land would not fetch its value, You most certainly must be a better Judge in this matter than myself what is most advisable for us to take, there will necessarily be a great expense incurred by fencing in your Letter you are of an opinion it would be better to dispose of it, in that case, the most Money must be got, in the Valuation, the utmost price is 35 Years purchase, which appears to be not high rated, especially as it will be put up in Lots, people are apt to bid higher for small detachments. In a letter from Mr. Long to Mrs. Beaumont he says, I am sorry to say Mr. Skelton waited upon me wishing me to give up again, tho' I had finally agreed upon & settled with him for my particulars & has laid out some Money in necessary preparations therefore I told him I would not think of doing nor would I consent to anything of the kind I thought it would be a Stigma upon my Character to be so unsteady, as I was in so much want of a situation he says he finds Stephen Green of Hoyland has been to request he might have five of them Closes (so that there will be but two remaining) which he will give the full rent for he being a man of property, & I will take the two remaining if you please, or there are two or three more in Hoyland that will take them at the full rent so that I hope you will not disappoint me of the situation, he likewise says you told him that Charles <Stringer> & Broadhead would not take the parts allotted them so that you could not dispose of that part. – I shall write to him. I think with his situation in business & having no capital to begin with too much land would be impolitic for him to undertake. I would not wish to oblige either <Stringer> or Broadhead to take the Land offered to them unless it was perfectly agreeable to them, I thought they would rather have been glad to have had more land allotted to them. I have no objections to Dame Stevensons Son having some thing given him for the Loss he has sustained, had the Dog been provoked to bite him, I wrote to Tweedale about the Dog. As the Cottons have a Lease upon the Estate, is it customary for the Landlord to pay for the repairs if so, they had better have the 40£ and do it themselves provided they do everything that the Mason and Carpenter mention. In a letter from Mr. Blackett lately he mentions having made a very large sale at £20. 10s.

payable in 6 months. As Mr. Stevenson appears to have come into the terms which the Gentlemen Trustees have proposed, he appears to me to be the properest person to appoint. The resolutions of the Meeting appear to me to be very good, & most certainly some application should be made by the Receiver (who is he) to Mr. Barker as it is highly proper the Trustees shd. be in possession of the writings & not Mr. Barker. I have not subscribed for any shares in the canals for myself as yet the Books have not been sent, & there is an Idea there will be two canals, & I am desired to wait before I put my name down. You may pay Gill of Leeds but tell him to send his Bill into me before you pay it. I am happy to say that Mrs. Beaumont & the dear Children are very well the Young one is in good health and likely to do well. –

I am Dear Skelton Yours sincerely

T.R.B.-

[Cover:] London January nineteenth 1796 Mr. Skelton, Birthwaite Hall, Wakefield.  
From Tho. Rd. Beaumont.

**20 Feb 1796 Richard Jackson to Thomas Richard Beaumont**

[Note: recipient not named but undoubtedly TRB from the context. See covering letter to Skelton 23rd Feb]

Sir

I beg leave to inform you that the Children left at Britton Mill have been advis'd to give up their situations, from an Idea, that from their Youth and consequent inexperience, they could not manage so great a concern - The Mill has been offer'd to one Joseph <Kay> a Man 70 Years of Age formerly tenant to Sir Thos. Blackett but lost his situation for suffering his Mill to go to ruin for want of repairs.

The Children are very desirous to stay at their old home, which has been enjoy'd by the family for near 60 Years, Your goodness and humanity will no doubt Sir interest you in the cause of three young Girls left to the wide world without a Protector, the Parent who should direct their footsteps is gone! Bereft of that fostering hand & turn'd to the wide world without a friend might probably involve them all in ruin and destruction.

The Plan Sir which I wish to submit to your consideration & better Judgement is this, we would put the Children out till they are at Age. A respectable Person capable of managing the Mill has propos'd to the Trustees, to undertake the Mill till the Girls are capable of managing it, and over and above the Rent to allow them 30£ a Year for the expence they have been at in improvement and repairs and as soon as they come of Age to deliver them possession again and if in the mean time sickness or any other misfortune should befall them, it should be a home to them as before.

If this proposal Sir should meet with your Approbation, & you will have the goodness to interfere in their favour, it will render an essential service to three helpless

orphans the near relatives of an old tenant, they will be enabled to retain a situation they much prize and which their Ancestors have at great expence kept in good repair, & thereby probably avoid the dangers they otherways would be expos'd to if turn'd out to the wide world without a Protector.

I beg leave to subscribe myself Sir  
Your most obedient & Very humble Servt.  
Richd. Jackson

Wentbridge Feb ry. 20. 1796

**23 Feb 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: The month in which this letter was written is deduced from the content in relation to the sequence of letters in this correspondence. The enclosure referred to is the letter from Richard Jackson to T.R. Beaumont dated 20 Feb 1796.]

23d. 1796

Dear Skelton,

I suppose before this time the Rent Day is over and that every thing was conducted with satisfaction to all. Enclosed I send you a letter I this morning received from Mr. Jackson, I do not see how any person can undertake what he says, to allow the Girls 30£ a Year over & above the Rent, and when they come of Age to resign the possession – the letter is wrote in a pedantic style and without giving in any Name - do make some enquiry about this Matter, and tell me what you advise.

Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. B.

**4 Mar 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Dear Skelton,

I have the favour of yours and with respect to the letting of the Mill to the Daughters of Parkin, I don't think them by any means fit persons, & the plan they wish to adopt does not seem a good one. I am very happy to learn the Tenants all paid their rents. <H> Ashton thinks my little Mare will hold, I have no objections to her being covered by Mr. Wilson's horse, and <Wildair> may also be covered by any horse he likes best. What has been done about the Tythes by Mr. <Lumly> I understand from Mrs. Vaughan he is proceeding?

Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

March 4th 96

**14 Mar 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Undated, but Beaumont's regiment was raised in the mid-1790s, and the 14th fell on a Monday in 1796]

Dear Skelton,

I am only come here this Morning & am going to return immediately. I shall march two Troops of my Reg[imen]t past your House about 11 o' Clock tomorrow for Barnsley, I shall be glad you will give me the meeting <with> John Gates & go and dine with me, when we can have some conversation –

Yours sincerely

Tho. Rd. Bt.

Monday Mar 14

**19 Mar 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

March 19th 1796

Dear Skelton

I have the proposals of Mr. Swallow before me, and it is a matter of such serious concern that I don't know what to say on the subject, from your letter to me it appears as if you thought their proposals <eligible>. The persons who are bound if any are to join with him ought to be persons of property and who are well known, he himself should be a man possessed of a great capital or he never can embark on such a great undertaking, for we may be drawn into a law suit in case he should fail, & too much care cannot be taken, what does the other party say on the Subject. Tell me fully what are your sentiments on this Business & how far our present income is in any way likely to be benefitted by this measure. I confess I think this matter of Ironstone would let at a much higher & perhaps better sale when the Navigation is opened & might bring more competition than now, and the cutting up of the Land would lessen the rent of that, & whether the advance of the other would in the end repay the deficiency of the other, & the Wood would be much injured. There are so many lights to take this in, and so many Years they wish to bind me to, that of renewal for nine Years, that it appears giving them possession for that term, <& as we> are soon to have a peace, that & any other commodity in <life> (and more especially Iron there will be a great demand for, and the conveyance will be <easy>,) will all find their level, I feel great reluctance in signing a contract of that great concern – I wish you would put down my Name for Mr. <Currs> Book he sent me a paper & the subscription is £2. 2d What have you done about the Wood? I am happy to say Mrs Beaumont & the Children are all well –

I am Yours sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

Enclosed I send you a letter from Mr. <Lodge>, & I will thank you to tell him I cannot appoint him to the School, as there are many who have made prior Claim to him.

[annotated at top, possibly in Skelton's hand:] <Farnaces> Ironstone &c, for John Sinclair's <I...aBill>, Greaves' Bill, & lead Pays. Kexbo Buildings, Shaws do - <Cr..heath>

**11 Apr 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

April 11th 1796

Dear Skelton,

I have sent you Mr. Baily's nomination. You have sent me part of the proposals of Mr Swallow but not the whole, as there were some remarks made on some of the Clauses which I objected to. As to getting the Ironstone by the <heart Eye> method I have no objections to, and if they are obliged to pursue the old way & he will pay for the Land it is just the same thing. I did not understand I was to lay out 500£, I thought he was to pay all. I think the Sale of wood is very small & I greatly fear this continuation of the War will not improve the sale. I am happy to say Mrs. Beaumont & the Children are very well, we only went into the Country for a little fresh Air. I am sorry Mrs. Cotton has lent her Money to <..amb> Wood, I fear they will lose a great deal of it.

I am much obliged to you for the pea fowl, the Prince of Gloucester was to have dined with us, but he was taken very ill. Money is very scarce here, and <sad> work in the City. Mr Wilson informed me yesterday that Stacpool's business is to come on in West. Hall on <Thurs> next

I am Yours sincerely  
Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**21 Apr 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Not dated, but it would appear to have followed TRB's letter of 11 April 1796 indicating that the Stacpoole case was to be tried at Westminster Hall on 'Thurs next', which would have been 21st April]

Dear Skelton,

The Affair of Stackpooles is settled, and She is to have the Annuity for her Life, & not the 10,000£. The particulars Mr. Wilson will send you tomorrow. I must confess it has not terminated in the manner I supposed, for the decision has been from the Will not

being properly worded, that is, you should, as you say you knew it was the intention not to make a forfeiture left out the Clause, or have inserted it more fully, and the next by your advice we paid her the Annuity which is to be repaid, the Men of the Law in the Court made many inquiries who advised us, There were a number of Yorkshire people in the Court.

In haste Yours –

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

**23 Apr 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

April 23rd 1796

Sir,

I do not see anything objectionable in Mr. Swallows proposals. The granting a Lease, you say for 60 Years, in the proposals it says 63 Years for the Land, would make it necessary for an exchange of Land, as the Close is in the marriage Settlements, there being only one Close, and by Mrs. Beaumont's signing her Consent to the Agreement, she being in Case of my Death so amply provided for, should Imagine would sufficiently satisfy the Trustees of the Settlement to accede to the Measure without any great trouble or expense & not make it necessary for to make any exchange, & that Mr. Swallow would not object to that measure, as it would save time.

Your Statements in profits are only for 30 Years is Mr. Swallow at the expiration of the Lease or when the Ironstone is done to clear away the <rubbish> or leave it on the ground. Should the <heart Eye> Method not be found practicable, then he must pay for the Damage <ad valorem> to the Damage <done>. I always understood it would be better for the Children of Parkins to lease the Farm. I am so much taken up at this time, I cannot say more, but will write soon again –

Yours &c

T.R.B. -

**26 May 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Month not given but likely to have been May. Fawkes declared his candidature for Yorkshire on 23rd May, and the election as underway between May and June of that year. TRB had been elected –unopposed– for Northumberland in a by-election the previous year and clearly expected the same in the following year's general election]

N. C. 26th 1796

Sir,

Your letter was sent me here, I have no objections to Mr. Easdale having the four Acres of Land allotted me as that is no object. There does not appear to me any person that is willing to undertake the School at Darton under the Terms the Trustees want. Mr.

Pickles must have the entire approbation of all the trustees before he can be appointed, and a meeting of them should be had to know whether they approve of him. I am sure it is my wish that the School should be opened soon & by a proper person. I have not as yet determined who I shall [give?] my interest to for the County, but I think Mr. <Fa.> [Fawkes? Elected for Yorkshire in 1796] You can speak to the person who wants Mr. Earnshaw's Farm & hear his Terms, in what <line> is Mr. Earnshaw going into the <Army> - I am happy to say I shall have no opposition here - The whole county is electioneering -

Yours &c -

T.R.B.

**13 Aug 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

[Note: Month not given but August was the only month in 1796 when the 13th fell on a Saturday]

Saturday 13th 96

Dear Skelton,

As I had not an opportunity of seeing Mr. Barker, and meeting Mr. Wilson, I requested him to speak to him and enclosed I send you his Answer. The Trustees should be made acquainted with his reply - I have also sent you Mr. Stephenson's letter to me, which I have given this Answer to. That I cannot give him any security for £300 to be paid to him on his resignation, that unless he will agree to the terms proposed, I cannot find myself to be responsible for the money being paid, but I should send his Letter for the perusal of the Trustees - I wish you would have some conversation on this subject, for he does not appear to mind any thing but the <boarders>, & only wants the Alteration for that purpose & in that case it would not be attending to the intent of the Charity. I will write to you again - in haste

Yours Sincerely

T.R.B t.

**27 Oct 1796 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Mark Skelton**

Bretton Octbr 27th 96

Sir,

I have yours enclosing the Bond, but from what Lord Strafford said to me he was not for paying the £264. - for he is at present in a disagreeable dilemma with the Duke of Leeds, respecting the Title of his Estate, his Grace claiming it as a Copyhold & his Lordship said he did not wish to pay the Money until that Matter was settled, but I understood him he would give me up the Rent of the Houses. He should I think in that case repay me all the Rent that has been paid to him as he never received either rent or Interest. The Houses mentioned in your paper, the <Leaps> and those houses round the

field. I shall be at home all next week if you <would> wish Mrs. Booths conveyance to be settled.

I am Your Hble. Servt.

T.R.B.